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# The Jersey SIERRAN

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Roughly 20,000 Members in New Jersey

October-December 2010

## Making New Jersey a Coal-Free State

By Christine Guhl, Sierra Club Field Organizer – Beyond Coal Campaign  
(Christine.Guhl@Sierraclub.org)

The Sierra Club is campaigning against dirty coal throughout the nation - and New Jersey is no exception. New Jersey makes approximately 14% of its electricity from coal, compared to 54% in neighboring Pennsylvania. Coal-burning is the country's leading source of greenhouse gases, and contributes heavily to pollution within New Jersey.

Burning coal produces thousands of tons of soot, smog-forming gases, and heavy metals each year, which are carried down-wind from smokestacks, eventually settling onto surface-water or land, and negatively impacting air and water quality. These pollutants are linked to health problems including asthma and lung cancer. The mining of coal results in additional environmental degradation, especially the contamination of rivers and streams. Coal is also the primary source of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution in the United States, which is the leading cause of global warming. The Sierra Club is working to end the nation's reliance on this dirty fuel by shutting down coal plants across the country, substituting both conservation (less electricity-use) and alternate sources of electricity.

A typical 500 megawatt electric power plant burns approximately 1.5 million tons of coal each year. Currently there are seven coal-fired plants in New Jersey, three of which produce the majority of the power. PSE&G operates the Hudson and Mercer Generation Stations - approximately 650 megawatts each. The BL England plant in Cape May County produces about 300 megawatts. The Sierra Club is campaigning to have BL England shut down, and to have PSE&G's plants converted to natural gas.

New Jersey imports much of its electricity from Pennsylvania, which is also one of the nation's leading coal producers. Since New Jersey is down-wind from Pennsylvania (most of the time), we also receive the airborne soot, gases and metals released by Pennsylvania's smokestacks. PSE&G has been attempting to expand the capacity of its high-voltage transmission line from Pennsylvania, so it can increase the amount of coal-fired electricity imported to New Jersey (and, to the extent that more electricity is manufactured in Pennsylvania, the amount of accompanying pollution). Thanks in part to the Club's intervention, this project has been delayed three to five years for DEP permitting.

The coal industry has responded to our efforts with a new "clean coal" technology - that would be incorporated in the proposed "PurGen" plant in Linden, NJ. This new plant would attempt to capture its CO<sub>2</sub> exhaust gas, concentrate it into liquid form, pump it through a pipeline under the ocean to a point 70 miles offshore from Atlantic City, and inject it for permanent storage deep below the seabottom. The technology has not been proven at a commercial scale, and the

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## Candidates Endorsed for General Election (Nov. 2nd)

Please VOTE for these candidates, and urge others to.

### US House of Representatives, by District:

- 1st CD (Camden, Gloucester Counties): **Robert Andrews** (D\*)
- 2nd CD (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumb, Salem): **Frank LoBiondo** (R\*)
- 3rd CD (Burlington, Ocean): **John Adler** (D\*)
- 6th CD (Middlesex, Monmouth): **Frank Pallone** (D\*)
- 7th CD (Hunterdon, Somerset, W. Union): **Leonard Lance** (R\*)
- 8th CD (N. Essex, Passaic): **William Pascrell** (D\*)
- 9th CD (Bergen, N. Hudson): **Steven Rothman** (D\*)
- 10th CD (Essex, E. Union): **Donald Payne** (D\*)
- 12th CD (Hunt'don, Mercer, M'sex, M' mouth): **Rush Holt** (D\*) - See article on p. 4
- 13th CD (Hudson, N. M'sex, E. Union): **Albio Sires** (D\*)

County assignments are approximate; \* denotes Incumbent

**NJ Senate:** 14th AD: **Linda Greenstein** (D) - See article below

## Sierra Club Endorses Linda Greenstein, Environmental Champion

By Bonnie Tillery, of our Central Jersey Group  
(blt44blt@msn.com)

As Assemblywoman for the last 10 years from NJ's 14th District (eastern Mercer, southern Middlesex Cos.), Senate candidate Linda Greenstein has been a strong voice for the health of the environment and for the citizens of our State. She has either sponsored or co-sponsored important environmental legislation supported by the NJ Sierra Club, including the Global Warming Response Act that mandated reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.

Linda Greenstein championed energy efficiency and alternative energy sources by introducing - and rallying her colleagues for - bills that would decrease our dependence on coal and oil, thereby improving the quality of our air. Her Clean Car Act is one of the strongest in the country. A prime sponsor of the Smart Container Act, Greenstein spoke out for recycling, as well as for legislation to recycle plastic bags. She opposed increases in mass transit fares; and sponsored bills to improve public transportation infrastructure. She spoke out for women in her support for family planning funding, which would save the State \$4 for every \$1 spent on Medicaid and bring in over \$9 million in federal subsidies. In supporting the Highlands Act, she helped protect the drinking water of half the people in the State. She also voted against a bill that would have gutted protections for New Jersey's water supplies.

Assemblywoman Greenstein stood up for the health of the people of Hamilton Township with hearings on the contaminated W.R. Grace site, which DEP deemed complete after a consultant, paid by Grace, gave the "all clear" on the land. The site was later found to have extensive asbestos contamination that required massive remediation. Having seen the damage that can be done when paid consultants approve cleanups, she sided with the health of the people and the environment, and against her party,

by opposing the Licensed Site Remediation program that now allows consultants, paid by the companies whose cleanup work they certify, to certify a site as clean.

Greenstein held hearings and wrote legislation to eliminate the statue of limitations on environmental crimes which will protect neighborhoods from toxins as in the case of W.R. Grace and Mercer Rubber in Hamilton.

She sided with the environment and against her party to protect the health of the citizens of this State when she opposed the Fast Track law and the Permit Extension Act that weakened environmental standards. For Greenstein the environment comes first.

Linda Greenstein supports wind and solar power which can bring good paying jobs to New Jersey without compromising air and water quality.

The NJ Chapter gave her the coveted early endorsement several times; we felt there could be no one stronger to work for the environment. "She probably has the best voting record on the environment of any Assemblyperson and we would like to see her take that leadership into the Senate," said Jeff Tittel, NJ Sierra Club Director.

At a time when the Governor of our State is trying to gut environmental laws, rules and regulations, a strong voice for the health and safety of the people and the land is needed in the NJ Senate. That is why the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed Linda Greenstein and urges its members and supporters to back her as well.

(Contact Rich Isaac, Chapter Political Chair, if you need assistance in becoming active!)



## SIERRA CLUB BALLOT

### 2010 Election of Officers of the New Jersey Chapter, and its Groups and Sections

The Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) meets monthly (on second Saturdays, usually in the Trenton or New Brunswick areas) for discussion of state and regional issues, to take policy positions (including legal actions) and make political endorsements, hear reports from staff and volunteer issue coordinators, elect the Chapter Chair, and consider matters arising. It consists of nine members elected at large (just below!) for three-year terms, plus delegates from each of our 12 regional Groups. (In addition to Groups, the Chapter loosely houses five specialty (optional) Sections: for Singles, Seniors, Young Sierrans, Students, and folk who provide Inner City Outings.)

**Chapter Ballot:** Please vote for UP TO THREE candidates for Chapter Executive Committee. Name-order has been randomized. All are "Nominating Committee" candidates, i.e. none are "Petition" candidates. (Those whose terms are expiring are Mike Herson, Rich Isaac and Jane Tousman.) 100-word candidate-statements are on page 2. PAIRS of boxes are to enable JOINT members to cast separate votes. Then please vote your GROUP ExCom ballot, below, and SECTION ballot(s) for sections in which you are active; then clip the ENTIRE ballot (retaining your address label, which will be obscured before counting!) and return it in your own envelope, to arrive by Dec 1, to **Sierra Club Ballot, 145 W Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618.**

Vote for UP TO THREE (Name order has been randomized.):

- Joan Denzer
- Rich Isaac
- Write-in \_\_\_\_\_
- Joe Testa
- Jane Tousman

### Group and Section Ballots:

Please vote your GROUP ExCom ballot, below, and SECTION ballot(s) for sections in which you are active. Club rules require two more candidates than the number of openings; when an insufficient number of candidates is on offer, write-in slots are provided.

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Eight Additional Articles are in a Supplementary Issue Located on the Chapter Website: click Newsletters!

**Group Ballots:**

**South Highlands Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. For two-year terms. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Dave English       Cinny MacGonagle
- Mark Marciniak
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**North Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FOUR.

- Mike Herson       John Kashwick
- Tom Thompson       Nancy Wysocki
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hudson-Meadowlands Group:** Candidates for two-year terms on the Group ExCom, listed alphabetically. Please vote for UP TO FOUR.

- Judith Courtney       Ruth Olsen
- Gil Hawkins       Mirjana Zivkovic
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Loantaka Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FOUR.

- Joyce White       Wynn Johanson
- Bob Campbell       Bill Martin
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Central Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE. Terms expire December 2012.

- Tamanna Mohapatra       Terry Stimpfel
- Joanne Pannone
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Raritan Valley Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO THREE.

- Denise McClellan       Jane Tousman
- Sunil Somalwar
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jersey Shore Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Dennis Anderson       April Klimley
- Lois Blake       Pat Fuschetto
- Bob Grize
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ocean County Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Two-year terms. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Dawn Marie Johns       Terry Brown
- Howard Schwartz       Nancy Brown
- Margit Meissner-Jackson
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**West Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Two-year terms. Please vote for UP TO TWO.

- Fran Zinni       Ellen Zinni
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**South Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Two-year terms. Please vote for UP TO THREE.

- Tom Boghosian       Douglas Jewell
- Dick Colby
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

## Statements by Candidates for Chapter Executive Committee

**JOAN DENZER (Central Jersey Group):** This is a worrisome and exciting time for environmentalists: worrisome because of the impasse for Congressional legislation on climate change; exciting because unprecedented membership growth clearly says that the citizens agree with our positions and concerns. Our Chapter, through the efforts of our hard-working staff and volunteers, has been successful in saving New Jersey's open space and keeping our air and water clean. As an ExCom member I would work to continue that success by using my experience gained in Club positions at the state, regional and national levels. I would appreciate your vote.



**RICH ISAAC (Loantaka Group):** A Club member since 1976, Rich has served as Chair and Political Chair of the North Jersey, Loantaka Group and Essex County Groups, and organized the Hudson-Meadowlands Group. Now serving as both the Chapter's Political Chair and its Group Effectiveness Chair, Rich is also currently serving on the Club's national Political Committee. For his efforts, he has received the Chapter's Political Action Award in 1992, its Outstanding Group Chairperson Award in 1994, and in 2000, an award for being Essex County Group Chair. Rich enjoys walking with his wife, son, and Frisky (his cocker spaniel) together in the woods.



**JOE TESTA (Singles Section):** Growing up in NJ, I learned how vulnerable our state is to losing its areas of natural beauty and clean water supply. I joined the Club 25+ years ago to support its mission of lobbying to defend our environment, and it turned out to be a great way to learn from the outdoor experience of others. As Singles Section Chair and Conservation Chair, I've communicated that mission to our members and helped to bring them together to enjoy what the Club works so hard to protect. As an Excom member I'll continue to help make sure that hiking lobbyists count.



**JANE TOUSMAN (Raritan Valley Group):** Jane is a devoted activist who helped save the Dismal Swamp with over 200 acres of wetlands and forests. She is a certified paralegal and a former President of the Edison Township Council. Efforts have gone into the saving of Roosevelt Long Term Care Facility from privatizing. It is now on the Federal and State Registers. She worked with a citizen group that successfully saved a Revolution War site from being developed by Walgreens. She is now an active member of the "Edison Open Space Committee". Currently on the Executive Committee she represents the Chapter at Annual Meetings in California.



## POPULATION ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

### The Importance of Integrated Services

By Bonnie Tillery, (blt44blt@msn.com)

The gold and black beaded necklace sits on my dresser, a reminder of the intelligent, poised, 14-year-old Jasmine, whose home we visited in the slums of North Delhi. We were in India on a Sierra Club Global Population and Environment Program study trip to look at various population-related programs.



At WAG-CHELSEA Headquarters on left Bonnie Tillery, on right Doe Nair, President of WAG-CHELSEA

We met Jasmine, along with other girls and women, at WAG-CHELSEA Community Center where they gather once a month to learn about health-related topics. WAG-CHELSEA is an acronym for Women's Action Group - Children, Health, Education, Ladies, Senior citizens, Environment, Awareness. This NGO works with individuals and families where a family member is infected with HIV/AIDS. With the help of funding from organizations such as Catholic Relief Services, USAID, Family Health International and The Clinton Foundation, as well as private and public programs in India, WAG-CHELSEA carries out its mission of education and empowerment, skills building, and health services so that participants can make a positive contribution to society.

Jasmine, whose father died of AIDS, was sitting on the floor with her peers, getting age-appropriate information about fetal development that she would then take back to her friends in the slums. We followed her back to her home, turning in next to an open garbage pit where pigs were eating. We walked down narrow alleys with gutters on both sides that ran with sewage. Jasmine gathered her friends in the small courtyard (perhaps 8 feet square) in front of her home and told them what she had learned. We observed them through the windows of the small room, no bigger than the courtyard, where Jasmine lives with her mother and 3 siblings. The five of them make bead necklaces and can turn out about 12 a day. For this they are paid 15 rupees (about 30-cents) for all 12. Jasmine's mother did not have access to health information so she wants her daughters to "know everything." She knows how important education is and wants to send all of her children to school; even so, two daughters have to stay home and make necklaces. There is no potable water nearby so she walks many blocks for water where there is usually a long queue. All of this takes time away from making necklaces. Sometimes they do not have enough money for meals so their supper will consist of tea and a cookie. How could we not have opened our purses and given her money for the time she had spent with us? And in return, one of her daughters handed me the beautiful bead necklace she had just made.

Later I spoke with Doe Nair, the compassionate woman who started the WAG-CHELSEA program. She said that in every slum hundreds of women are making these necklaces. Because feeding the family seemed so tenuous, I asked Doe how they taught healthy eating. She said that they talk about nutrition, but also ask the family how much they can spend on food, then work within that amount for the most nutritious meals the family can afford. But, food is becoming more and more expensive and the program may have to open food kitchens.

Since part of the organization's name includes "environment," I asked how this fit into the mission of education and empowerment. Doe said that they encourage people to maintain cleanliness in their homes and surrounding areas and encourage the planting of native trees such as the jobba, neem, and others that provide shade and give fruit; or, like the leaves of the neem tree, provide repellent from mosquitos, thereby protecting against malaria and dengue.

Under the Bush Administration, U.S. funding for HIV/AIDS programs increased, but at the expense of other reproductive health programs and with severe restrictions. Many programs providing women's health services did not qualify for funding because they provided information about abortions (legal in India) or worked with sex workers. Many of the groups we met with indicated that when programs for women's health integrate HIV/AIDS education, prevention and care with other services such as reproductive health, the outcome is always better.

Providing education for women and girls delays the age of marriage (by law in India, 21 for males and 18 for females, but child-marriages are still common). Educated women tend to have fewer children, giving them the time and resources to better provide for their families. Healthier people do not have a need to exploit the environment, and this contributes to the overall welfare of the community and the environment.

To learn more about WAG-CHELSEA go to: [www.wagchelsea.org](http://www.wagchelsea.org). To learn more about the Sierra Club's population program, go to: [sierraclub.org/population](http://sierraclub.org/population).

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed." Mahatma Gandhi

## COAL-FREE STATE

(Continued from page 1)

costs are likely to be extreme, not to mention that much of the electricity manufactured would be used internally to concentrate, pump and inject the CO<sub>2</sub> waste-product. At this point, adequate funding does not exist for PurGen. The Sierra Club will work to ensure that this experimental coal plant does not get built.

New Jersey is on its way to a cleaner future by eliminating its need for coal combustion. The 14% current coal-generation must be replaced by other energy sources. Across the country, the task is even more daunting, but the Sierra Club will continue to fight for cleaner fuels, energy efficiency and renewable resources.

(Christine Gubl has a background in conservation and environmental education. A native of Trenton, she worked in our Trenton office during the Spring and Summer temporarily, as a Program Assistant, and has now been hired by the National Sierra Club to lead our Clean Coal campaign.)

**Is there an environmental issue that we're MISSING? If so, please call or write to Club officers.**

**Reports from Trenton:**

Both by our Chapter staff: Jeff Tittel and Kara Seymour

# Commissioner Martin: Protect the Delaware River from Damage by Hydro-fracking!

New Jersey should be deeply concerned with proposals for shale drilling and hydro-fracking in the upper Delaware River Basin of Pennsylvania and New York State. [For some of us the word will be new: hydro-fracking is the shattering of rock in deep wells, to permit removal of embedded gases or liquids, by injection of water and dissolved chemicals under high pressure.] The Basin's Marcellus Shale formation contains substantial amounts of natural gas, but the gas is only recoverable following hydro-fracking.

The Delaware River is the source of drinking water for three million New Jersey residents. Currently, the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has imposed a moratorium on new fracking wells. However, we are concerned with the position New Jersey is taking on this issue. In a letter sent July 13 to the DRBC, DEP Commissioner Bob Martin says he believes Pennsylvania should have primacy over regulation of fracking in the Marcellus Shale. We think the potential for damage to New Jersey's water supply is reason for our state to be more involved in setting regulations.

The Sierra Club argues that the DRBC was created to regulate water supply for the entire Basin; these decisions should not be made by one state. Moreover, Pennsylvania has some of the worst water problems in the nation - that they repeatedly fail to deal with. Pennsylvania has fought against strengthening standards and eliminating pollution from waterways. It has often opposed land use regulations that protect water, and pushed for more dumping - of municipal waste, industrial wastes, and dredge spoils. In its Marcellus Shale areas, Pennsylvania is

leasing public lands for well drilling, looking to make money through fracking. We think that poses a conflict of the public's interest in protecting water supplies.

The average frack uses between one million and six million gallons of water. Each well may get fracked three or four times before going into production. Additionally, each frack needs maintenance fracking afterwards. Fracking fluid is water with dissolved chemicals that may include benzene, salts, and other volatile organics. The fracking process can contaminate streams and rivers, both through the discharge of fracking fluids and accidental spills. Much of the fracking fluid does not get removed, so could contaminate our aquifers.

An average well in the Marcellus Shale destroys 15 acres of forest and requires half a mile of roadway. There are currently permit applications for more than 10,000 wells. The entire Delaware River Basin could see as many as 50,000 wells. The runoff and pollution will cause irreparable damage. Thanks to Dick Cheney's Energy Task Force and the Bush Administration's changes to the Safe Drinking Water Act, fracking fluids are now exempt from regulation by the Safe Drinking Water Act. The largest company seeking to drill in the Marcellus Shale happens to be Halliburton (of which Dick Cheney was CEO from 1995-2000).

Thanks to New Jersey Congressman Rush Holt, the EPA has just received public money to study the impacts of fracking on our water. We believe it would be prudent to wait for the results of that review before moving forward with drilling in the Marcellus Shale. But the DRBC's current moratorium on fracking will expire before the EPA's impact study is released.



## Four Steps Closer to Saving Barnegat Bay

On August 12th the NJ Assembly and Senate Environment Committees held a joint meeting to review a suite of bills to protect Barnegat Bay. After years of inaction, the four bills on the Barnegat Bay are welcomed.

**Statewide Fertilizer Bill (S1411/A2290):** Fertilizer runoff from lawns contaminates the Bay with chemicals and nutrients. The excess nitrogen promotes algal blooms which ultimately reduce oxygen levels in the water and block sunlight. This creates a habitat that is inhospitable to sea grass and other marine life, but is ideal for sea nettles and jelly fish. The bill would reduce the levels of nitrogen and prohibit phosphorus, with some exceptions, allowed in fertilizer sold at retail and used by professional landscapers in New Jersey. It would also require public education on the over-use of fertilizers, prohibit fertilizer application during the winter months, and require that less harmful forms of nitrogen be used in fertilizers.

**Soil Health Bill (S1410/A2501):** During construction, soil is compacted and can become as hard as pavement. Compacted soils create more impervious cover, resulting in more stormwater runoff and less groundwater recharge. This bill would require the development of standards for restoration of soil destroyed during construction activities,

and protect soils from excessive and unnecessary compaction, removal, and alteration

**Stormwater Utility Authority Bill (S1815/A2577):** All commercial and residential development in Ocean County threatens Barnegat Bay. Construction increases stormwater runoff and sedimentation which impacts water quality. Simultaneously, freshwater is being drawn out of the regional aquifer at a rate faster than recharge, resulting in a saltier Bay and increased nutrient levels. This bill mandates stormwater utility guidance for Ocean County, which will serve as a model for other counties, and would provide the funds to maintain, improve, clean up, and fix old stormwater systems.

**Stormwater Bill (S1856/A2606):** This bill would allow Ocean County to charge a fee to developers to address stormwater issues and to provide an incentive to reduce pollution.

The Sierra Club is pleased that the legislature is taking these first steps to addressing nonpoint pollution in Barnegat Bay. Additional measures are necessary, however: to limit overdevelopment and to require cooling towers at the Oyster Creek nuclear power station. Every day, 2.8% of the total volume of Barnegat Bay is pumped through the power plant to cool the nuclear reactors.

## Chair's Message

# Lessons from the Gulf



By Chapter Chair Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)

I thought, perhaps naively, that the Gulf oil spill would bring about a sea change in the way Congress and the American people viewed offshore drilling and this country's addiction to fossil fuels. I was wrong.

That is not to say that the American people, and yes, even some members of Congress, haven't learned a few things since oil first began spewing into the Gulf. I believe that most Americans now would agree that the petroleum industry cannot be trusted to regulate itself, that the Minerals Management Service is in need of a major overhaul, that procedures designed to prevent blowouts need to be updated and strengthened and that workable plans to deal with blowouts that do occur need to be put in place.

But the American people and their elected representatives in Congress remain largely clueless as to the broader lessons to be learned from the Gulf oil spill. Despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, they continue to believe that technology will come to our rescue, that the risks inherent in deepwater offshore drilling can be reduced to an acceptable level and that measures to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions can be deferred to some future date.

This past June, well after the magnitude of the environmental disaster first became apparent, 47 members of the United States Senate voted in favor of a measure to deny the Environmental Protection Agency authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act, and as of this writing all efforts to pass even a watered-down and deeply flawed climate bill have been abandoned. The message just isn't getting through.

One also has to wonder how drilling off the eastern coast of the United States, as advocated by President Obama and his Interior secretary Ken Salazar before the spill occurred, can possibly be justified. A recent study released by Environment America and the Sierra Club calculates the annual value of sustainable ocean activities, including tourism and fishing, on the east coast of the United States at

\$99.8 billion, compared with an annual value of oil and gas extraction in the same region of \$10.0 billion. Does it really make sense to risk so much in return for so little?

But even in areas, including the coasts of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, where the same study shows that the annual value of oil and gas extraction exceeds the annual value of sustainable ocean activities, one needs to ask the same question: Does it really make sense to risk so much in return for so little?

The New York Times reports that spills occurring over the past few decades, including spills in Prince William Sound in Alaska, off the Breton coast of France, along the southern Gulf coast in Mexico and in West Falmouth, Massachusetts, have left a legacy of environmental degradation that persists to the present day. Despite improvements in technology, spills will continue to occur. And when they do occur, especially those that occur deep beneath the sea's surface at depths that are all but inaccessible to man, the results can be disastrous.

And while it is true that in the case of the Gulf spill much of the surface oil has dispersed or evaporated, it will be some time before we know the full extent of the disaster, including long-term damage to coastal wetlands and marshes and the effects of oil beneath the surface on marine organisms, including phytoplankton and zooplankton, indispensable links in the marine food chain.

So what do we get in return for putting our natural environment and key segments of our local and national economies at risk? We get more oil, which translates into more pollution, an increase in health problems and premature deaths, an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, an acceleration of global climate change and, perhaps most disturbing, political cover for policymakers who are unwilling to make the decisions that need to be made in order to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, promote energy efficiency, encourage the development of alternative energy sources and prevent, or at least reduce the likelihood of, an impending global catastrophe.

## Resolutions Adopted by ExCom in June-August, 2010

We attempted to protect the Dismal Swamp (Edison, Middlesex Co) by urging careful study of a proposal for construction of a church on a landlocked parcel within the swamp. (July)

We objected to an attempt by the City of Edgewater (Bergen Co) to effectively develop 6.5 acres of Hudson Riverfront property currently included in its Recreational and Open Space Inventory. (August)

We moved toward rejuvenation of

our Essex County Group by renaming it the "Gateway Group" and altering its boundaries to include Elizabeth and exclude Livingston and Milburn. (August)

We took an additional step toward revitalization of our 12 Groups by designating a Group Effectiveness Committee, consisting of Rich Isaac (Chair), Barbara Conover, Cynthia Mackowicz and Greg Auriemma. (August)

### YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

Maybe you can't make a gift to protect the environment during your lifetime, but you can become a financial hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. You can even direct your gift to a special Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

This heated water kills fish and alters the ecological balance of the Bay.

Barnegat Bay is the Jersey Shore's most heavily used body of water, hosting more than 100,000 boaters on a typical

summer weekend. The Bay anchors the state's \$4 billion tourism industry and is the basis for \$100 billion in ratable properties. If we allow the bay to die, the state's economy suffers.

## Sierra Club Endorses Rush Holt for Congress

By Rachel Morris, Student Outreach Coordinator to Rush Holt for Congress



This year the Sierra Club endorses the reelection of 12th District Congressman Rush Holt (D). The New Jersey Chapter has designated the race as its top Congressional priority for the year.

Although Holt has been serving in Congress since 1998, he faces many challenges in the November 2nd election. One is that the public is currently wary of reelecting incumbents. Another is that Holt's opponent is very well funded: Scott Sippelle, a former executive in the financial services industry, is personally financing most of his campaign.

The Club stresses the ISSUES in this race: unlike Holt, whose environmental record has been excellent during all of his 12 years in office, Sippelle has yet to take a stand on environmental issues. Since Sippelle has not held public office, it is difficult to determine where he stands on many issues, aside from those concerning business and the economy.

The League of Conservation Voters has judged Holt's environmental voting record PERFECT. Trained as a physicist, Holt was previously Assistant Director of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, the largest alternative energy research facility in New Jersey. His committee work in Congress has concentrated on environmental policy, promoting clean water, clean energy, and open space preservation.

Now that the Senate has abandoned an energy/climate bill, which would have capped greenhouse gases and supported alternative energy, it is essential that we attempt to reverse that irresponsibility by electing officials committed to wise environmental legislation.

Here are some of Rush Holt's many environmental accomplishments:

- Protecting the Delaware River Basin

and its inhabitants —by sponsoring designation of the Lower Delaware River as part of the nation's Wild and Scenic River System, and securing \$1M to study the health and environmental risks from natural-gas drilling in the upper Delaware River basin.

- Leading the way with energy efficiency - by helping enact the first fuel efficiency standards in 32 years, by writing legislation that was passed in the House to help schools become more energy efficient, and by enacting an intelligent transportation initiative to decrease the amount of fuel wasted through real-time traffic monitoring, alternate route planning, and congestion management.

- Preserving our land and coast - by introducing the Big Oil Bailout Prevention Act this year to hold oil companies more financially responsible for oil spill damages, raising their liability cap from \$75 million to \$10 billion, and by working to stop ocean dumping off of New Jersey's coast, while creating a scientific advisory panel to prevent future contamination of the ocean.

We ask our members and friends to donate time to Holt's campaign: making phone calls and distributing campaign literature. If you are interested in helping out, even for just a few hours, please contact Victoria Mayer at 609-799-0800 or send her an e-mail at [victoria@rushholt.com](mailto:victoria@rushholt.com).

We also invite contributions to Rush Holt's campaign fund, using his web site: [www.rushholt.com](http://www.rushholt.com).

*(Rachel Morris is a sophomore political science and environmental studies major at The College of New Jersey.)*

Report from Trenton:

## Strategy to Prevent Passaic River Flooding

By our Chapter Director, Jeff Tittel ([jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org](mailto:jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org))

On May 26th the Passaic River Flood Advisory Commission held its first public meeting, at Montclair State University. The Sierra Club believes New Jersey has not adequately addressed the issue of flooding and the protection of important water resources in our state. As a result, some areas flood frequently, especially segments of the Passaic River.

Man-made structures (dams, weirs, bulkheads, diversion channels) have not been successful in addressing the problem. New Jersey wastes hundreds of millions of dollars on ineffective flood control measures when it is much cheaper, safer for people, and better for the environment to simply remove people from harm's way. The Sierra Club recommends a variety of measures to reduce flooding:

(1) The most important need is to **protect the headwater areas that contribute to downstream flooding**. This means stringent land-use controls to limit development in New Jersey's Highlands Region, where the Passaic River begins.

(2) **Towns in the Passaic watershed are failing to implement stormwater rules**. Implementation means strict protection of stream buffers, so that runoff from impervious pavement and rooftops doesn't flow directly into the River or its

tributaries. Because the Passaic floods so often, the DEP has imposed stormwater regulations that are stricter than those advocated in federal regulations. But the Christie Administration and the Legislature, under pressure from developers, are in a mood to prevent New Jersey from imposing standards stricter than those of the federal government. The result will be more flooding.

(3) **All rivers flood**. A component of any responsible flood-prevention strategy should be the buyout of flood-prone homes and other buildings in the flood plain. There must be limits to free enterprise when it comes to building on flood plains.

(4) **All rivers should be allowed to flood**. As is practiced in many segments of the Mississippi River Basin, extensive wetlands need to be maintained in flood-prone areas: by removal of fill, restoration of wetlands and riparian systems, and better managing of stormwater. Secondary and cumulative impacts need to be examined. Perhaps the Army Corps of Engineers, which has expertise in flood-plain management, should be given authority to design floodable borders to much of the Passaic River. Such fields can be used to graze cows in dry seasons, or even grow some kinds of crops.

## Our New Jersey Land Use Guide

By Laura Lynch, Chapter Conservation Chair

In the Spring 2010 issue of the Sierran we introduced *Land Use and Preservation in New Jersey: A Beginner's Guide*, a 20-page handbook that can be found on our website, <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org>. In the Summer issue we discussed some of the rules that the State and municipalities live by when planning a development. In this issue we will talk about what to do and how to organize when a development proposal is the subject of a public hearing. Much of what's here is a shortened version of our online guide, which also includes useful links to other resources.

### Organizing

No matter where in the application process the proposal is, it's important to bring together everyone who is opposed to the project. Have regular meetings and make sure that everyone involved has contact information for everyone else. Devise both short-term and long-term strategies. Communication with the press and the public is important. Depending on the situation you might want to send letters to the local paper one person at a time or as a group. If there are other organized groups who are opposed to the development, then you can form a coalition with them, which makes all of you more powerful. Get the word out to the neighborhood by leafleting or having a presence at local public activities. Local merchants may let you post fliers in their store windows.

Consider hiring a land use attorney to represent your group at public hearings. A competent attorney knows land use law well and will be able to make a case that can withstand an appeal from the opposition. If you plan to go to court you will need either a pro bono attorney or at least enough money to retain a lawyer. Look for a land use attorney who is familiar with the regulations in your municipality. Often other local groups who have fought similar battles can recommend someone.

Find out who owns the property. Sometimes this can be difficult because the owners might take on a name as a holding group to conceal their identities. Many municipalities have enacted anti-pay-to-play ordinances; this prohibits donations over a certain amount (which varies by municipality) from the owner or developer to anyone's municipal political campaigns. All campaign donations are public information. In the development application will be a list of all parties involved; you can check their names against campaign contribution lists. Anyone owning at least ten percent of the property must be listed as an owner. Ownership information will be part of the application on file at the municipal building.

Sometimes the property owner will be willing to work with you to come to a compromise, so do your best not to make enemies. Also important is having an alternate plan for the site. It's one thing simply to say no to a development and quite another to have a reasonable suggestion for what to do with the site instead. You will gain much more respect from the opposition if, while you say "no" to one thing, you're saying "yes" to something else. It is possible that you will be labeled as a NIMBY organization. The more you can prove far-reaching impact of the development the less likely you are to be dismissed as a self-concerned group.

All of this organization and publicity costs money, of course, so you might need to hold some fundraisers. If your group is a coalition of several member-

ship organizations you might obtain funding through those groups. Public fundraisers, such as barbecues, garage sales, or wine and cheese events can bring in money as well. If the situation is appropriate you might find local businesses willing to contribute to the cause.

If you believe the development was approved in error in such a fashion that it will have a statewide impact on the way other developments get approved, or if your case might set precedent for land use statewide, there are several organizations that might take your case for free, such as the Eastern Environmental Law Center (<http://www.easternenvironmental.org/home.html>), the Rutgers Environmental Law Clinic (<http://law.newark.rutgers.edu/clinics/environmental-law-clinic>), the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic ([http://www.pace.edu/page.cfm?doc\\_id=23238](http://www.pace.edu/page.cfm?doc_id=23238)), or the Columbia Environmental Law Clinic (<http://www.law.columbia.edu/focusareas/clinics/environment>).

### Public Hearings

Most public hearings are structured so that public comments can be made only after the developers have given their presentations and their experts have given testimony. This means you might be waiting two or three hours before you are permitted to speak.

While you're waiting it's important to pay close attention to the proceedings. Take good notes so that, when you do get your chance to speak, you have material to refer back to. Make sure you get a good look at any maps and diagrams on display so that you can follow the testimony. Write down your questions. You have the right to have the developer and the Planning Board explain to you anything related to the development plan. Remember, however, that your comments are restricted to the site and its development application. It is likely you'll get angry with the developer, the Planning Board, or both. That's to be expected, but control your rage. Be polite and respectful at all times. Losing your temper will only damage your side's credibility.

Some settings require that you sign up to speak, which you can do before or during the hearing. Don't worry if you're not an accomplished public speaker. It is perfectly acceptable to stumble, hesitate, and read from your notes. Speak slowly and clearly. Look directly at the officials as often as you can. Newspaper reporters look for short, pithy remarks to quote. Keep your comments and questions simple, polite, and to the point. When you are finished it's quite likely that you will be applauded by those in the audience who agree with you. Your detractors might murmur quietly.

Stick around after you've spoken. Other people might pose questions or make comments that you'll want to respond to or elaborate on. Often you will have the opportunity to speak more than once. The developer is probably hoping you'll go home, so don't. Stay as late as you can.

Public hearings are useful places to network with other individuals or organizations who share your interests. When development application hearings stretch to multiple nights it is often after a hearing, in the hallway, that the most important work gets done.

In the next issue of the Sierran we'll cover the other side of the development argument: open space preservation. Land Use and Preservation in New Jersey: a Beginner's Guide is online at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org> if you want to read more.

# The Route 55 Extension into Cape May County: "If at First You Don't Succeed,..."

By Douglas Jewell, Chair of our Cape May County Conservation Committee

Politicians are nothing if not relentless. And they're masters of taking rejection, putting a new spin on it, and throwing it back at the uninformed public. Case in point: the Route 55 extension.

The proposed 20-mile expressway would link the current terminus of Route 55 in Maurice River Township, Cumberland County, with the Garden State Parkway in Dennis Township, Cape May County. This so-called "Cape May Expressway" was abandoned in 1979 after environmental concerns led to public protests. (The route traverses coastal salt-marshes for almost its entire distance, including those in Belleplain State Forest and four Wildlife Management Areas.) Route 47 carries the current Route 55 traffic onward through Cape May County to Wildwood.

In the early 1990s, the Rte 55 extension got a new life. Fueled by the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce's dream of increased business and becoming a "bedroom community" of Philadelphia, politicians trumpeted it every year at election time. It got them elected, then the talk died.

The South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) undertook a comprehensive study in the late '90s. It suggested 17 improvements to area roadways as an alternative to extending Route 55. To date only six minor ones have been implemented.

The November, 1998 SJTPO report said of Route 55: "The need for a major highway project with year round impacts to address problems that occur during a limited summer season is questioned. This project would involve the construction of a new roadway through environmentally sensitive areas and public lands. It would face extreme environmental problems, particularly wetlands, which would make it difficult to permit and costly to mitigate. It would also be very costly to build." Yet local politicians and SJTPO officials have interpreted the study to be in favor of building the highway!

In 2002, proponents stole a page from environmentalists, who had argued that overdeveloping Cape May County would be dangerous if a hurricane evacuation was necessary. The new spin became that Route 55 was necessary for a timely hurricane evacuation.

A major political player has been Jeff Van Drew, mayor of Dennis Township (1994-95, 1997-2002). He first pushed the NJDOT to install traffic lights along Route 47 - arguing public safety. Drivers now agree that those very stoplights exacerbate and magnify traffic congestion on busy summer weekends. Later, as a state Assemblyman (2002-2008), Van Drew remained coyly neutral publicly on the Route 55 extension, but privately told environmentalists he was against the concept. Now, as a state Senator, he has become the spokesperson for extending Route 55. His latest spin is that traffic deaths on Route 47 are the reason to build Route 55. He points to two motorcyclists killed by drunk drivers as evidence.

Van Drew recently got Senate Bill S-1133 passed by a 39-1 vote (similar attempts in 2008 and 2009 died in sub-committees). The bill creates a "Task Force on the Extension of Route 55". This 11-member group would be pro-business and pro-highway. The bill sunsets the task force after 12 months, so the push will be on to submit already predictable "findings and recommendations."

Van Drew's 1st Legislative District col-

leagues, Assemblymen Matt Milam and Nelson Albano, introduced a companion bill, A-858, in January. Milam, incidentally, assured Cape May County Sierra Club leaders in September, 2009, that they would be included in any talks about Route 55, and that he was undecided on the issue, but he publicly endorsed the concept just 10 days later.

What the public hasn't been told is that the highway would take 12 years to get permitted and eight years to build. Van Drew is hoping to satisfy environmental concerns by building an elevated highway. Another deception is the reported estimate of cost, \$1 billion. Considering that a six mile elevated highway in Alabama without environmental constraints was recently built for \$410 million, the 20-mile Route 55 extension would cost at least \$2 billion. And won't the public be pleased to know that this extension would be a toll road?

Let's now consider Van Drew's assertion that an elevated highway 35 feet to 45 feet above the ground wouldn't harm the environment, as if by magic the concrete highway could just be dropped into place.

The surface of the highway would be the equivalent of 2,400 football fields laid end to end. All vegetation in that path would have to be removed. Each pier supporting the highway would need concrete footings poured in forms, with rebar cages inside, to depths ranging from 60 feet to 110 feet or more. A number of pumps, each drawing 20 cubic meters of water per minute, would remove ground water as the forms were built and from inside the forms as the concrete was poured. Drilling rigs, big excavators, supply trucks, concrete trucks, and monstrous cranes would need access to each and every footing, thereby necessitating the construction of many "temporary" lateral roadways.

A nine-mile elevated highway recently built in Tampa, FL, used 3,000 pre-constructed concrete highway sections for the actual road. So the Cape May 20-mile road would need in excess of 5,000 pre-cast concrete sections and concrete piers, each needing delivery by heavy equipment and work crews. Imagine the devastation to plants and animals and natural resources in these pristine wetlands and the state park and wildlife area.

So what's the solution to this 200 to 300 hour-per-year traffic congestion? Simple: the SJTPO report suggested the alternative of adding a reversible third lane to Route 47. Very little actual construction would be necessary and the impact on the environment and taxpayer pocketbooks would be minimal. Have two lanes southbound on Fridays and Saturdays, then two lanes northbound on Sundays and Mondays. Part Two of the solution is already in the works: the Garden State Parkway will have its three traffic lights (at Exits 8, 10 & 11) removed by 2018 - give or take a year - and that will end more frustrating traffic backups. Visitors and locals will quickly switch to the Atlantic City Expressway for access to the GSP - to get non-stop from Philadelphia to Cape May County.

To take action to help stop this economic and environmental boondoggle, contact your state Senator, state Assemblyperson, NJ Department of Transportation Commissioner James Simpson, NJ Dept of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin, and Governor Chris Christie.

# The New Good Life: Living better than ever in an age of less

Book Review by our regular "sustainable lifestyle" columnist, Suzanne Dragan (suzanne.dragan@aplNJ.org)

*I got plenty o'notbin' and notbin's plenty for me.  
I got no car, got no mule, I got no misery . . .  
(Ira Gershwain, "Porgy & Bess," 1935)*

In recent years, millions of people worldwide have watched their nest-eggs go up in smoke. International financial collapse, consumer debt and worker lay-offs have left countless people in dire straits. One of them is John Robbins, author of *Diet for a New America* and founder of EarthSave International. His new book, *The New Good Life* is about the up side to the economic downturn.

Heir to the Baskin Robbins fortune, Robbins made even more money on his own, but it was all lost in the Bernie Madoff rip-off scheme. Penniless, he attempted to re-build his finances by writing this book. *The New Good Life* is a Pollyanna/Thoreau primer on what truly constitutes wealth - along with how-to-live-with-less and money-saving suggestions. Providing a philosophical and prescriptive path from conspicuous consumption to conscious consumption, his book is a mantra of how "the best things in Life are free". Robbins' progressive ideas may well become the future norm: cooperative and communal living, eating more plant-based foods, car sharing, large-scale car pooling, and re-thinking the finances of parenthood.

Promoted as a "manifesto on finding meaning beyond money and status," this book delivers a sound blueprint for living well on less. Getting out of the fear mode is key, and Robbins describes various financial archetypes with their individual strengths and weaknesses. Robbins presents refreshingly positive and hopeful insights into money and happiness. His own riches to rags life (times two) is proof enough that he lives by his convictions. Robbins sincerely wants people to experience a sense of wealth and personal satisfaction while consuming less and enjoying it more. I might add that "Life is short so eat dessert first!" Here's a delicious cholesterol-free recipe made without dairy or eggs—but it does contain fat and sugar.

## The Best Ever Chocolate Cake

I defy anyone who loves chocolate cake not to flip over this ultra rich, moist cake!

Recipe makes enough for 12 regular cupcakes, 6 jumbo ones or almost 24 mini. It is enough for one small bundt cake. Double the recipe for an 8" by 8" square cake.

1 cup plain soy milk (low-fat is good)  
1 teaspoon apple cider vinegar  
¾ cup granulated sugar  
⅓ cup canola oil  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
½ tsp almond extract or more vanilla  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
⅓ cup cocoa powder  
¾ tsp baking soda  
½ tsp baking powder  
¼ tsp salt

Preheat oven to 350°.

Grease a cake pan with some non-hydrogenated soy "butter," like Earth Balance, or line muffin/cup cake pans with foil cups.

Whisk soy milk and vinegar in large bowl, set aside to curdle for a few minutes.

Add sugar, oil, vanilla extract and other extract to soy mixture and beat until foamy.

In a separate bowl, sift together flour, cocoa, baking soda, baking powder and salt.

Add in 2 batches to wet mixture and beat until smooth.

Fill containers ¾ full. Bake until done - for the bundt and square pan about 40 minutes; large cupcakes 18-20 minutes, and mini-cupcakes about 8-11 minutes.

Insert a toothpick and if it comes out clean, then cake is done. Cool before frosting or sprinkle with confectionary sugar.

(From "Vegan Cupcakes Take Over the World" by Isa Chandra Moskowitz.)

(Suzanne Dragan is a nurse, Sierra Club member and director of Food for Life, a program that promotes the New 4 Food Groups: fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes. Comments or questions? Contact: FoodforLife@aplNJ.org or 732-446-6963.)

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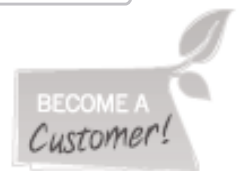
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\* Independent associate for Viridian

**We expect close races for Congress in the 3rd and 12th Districts, where John Adler and Rush Holt deserve our help.**



# Group News

FROM  
AROUND  
THE  
STATE

## HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

**Skylands Group:** Sussex & northern Warren  
**South Highlands Group:** Hunterdon and southern Warren  
**North Jersey Group:** Passaic & most of Bergen  
**Hudson-Meadowlands Group:** Hudson & SE Bergen  
**Gateway Group (formerly Essex County Group):** Essex, approximately  
**Loantaka Group:** Morris & Union  
**Central Jersey Group:** Mercer  
**Raritan Valley Group:** Somerset & Middlesex  
**Jersey Shore Group:** Monmouth  
**Ocean County Group:** Ocean  
**West Jersey Group:** Gloucester, Camden & Burlington  
**South Jersey Group:** Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

*These designations are approximate: members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) they find convenient*

### **Skylands Group (formerly Northwest Jersey Group)**

*(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)*

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair/Conserv'n Chair:</b>	Marie Springer	skylandssierraclub@gmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Charles Kopp	ccgkp@optimum.net
<b>Hospitality &amp; Special Events Chair:</b>	Pat Mangino	patmangino@optonline.net
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Marilyn Finley	marfin@earthlink.net
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Skylands/>

**ACTIVITIES:** Presently working with other grassroots organizations to support efforts to preserve open space and maintain water quality, and to preserve the views and natural resources of the Appalachian Trail and the Delaware Water Gap by opposing efforts to replace existing 80' tall power lines with 195' monster towers.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Generally held on the first Wednesday of every month, 7:30 pm, at Sussex Community College, Building D in the Auditorium. Shuttle Bus runs regularly from all parking lot areas.

Please see our website for the latest general meeting schedule, information on scheduled guest speakers, monthly meeting topics and conservation issues our group is focusing on.

**Oct 6:** Geothermal energy will be discussed.

**Nov 10 (SECOND Wed):** Green building will be the topic.

**Dec 1:** Topic to be decided. See our website.

### **South Highlands Group (formerly Hunterdon County Group)**

*(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties and surrounding areas)*

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Greg Nelson	gregssap@hotmail.com
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Cinny MacGonagle	cmacgonagle@yahoo.com
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!!!</i>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dwight Irving	dwright@dIrving.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<i>Open Position!!!</i>	
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Jonathan Wall	psychologist@jonwall.com
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Celeste Martin	oncentral@mac.com
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	William Moody	riversmfever@gmail.com
<b>Energy Coordinator:</b>	Mark Marciniak	mpmplace@ptd.net
<b>Outings Coordinator:</b>	Dave English	dgenglish@hotmail.com
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Dwight Irving	dwright@dIrving.com

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/SouthHighlands/>

See us and keep up to date with our Group on Facebook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=53817136187>

**We are now on Facebook!** Now you have three ways to stay updated on our group and events/activities going on! Go to our Facebook page, visit our Sierra Club Official Website, or get on our email distribution list. Please contact shighlandssierra@gmail.com for more information!

Currently we have a variety of fun outings and events planned for our members. The list is constantly being updated. On the initiatives front, we are tackling a variety of important issues, but focusing on three major topics: conservation issues, such as preserving open space (a priority in our local area), protecting our environment, and clean energy / energy conservation. GET INVOLVED!

#### MEETINGS, OUTINGS, and EVENTS:

Make sure to check our Sierra Club Group site or Facebook page for the latest and greatest on Meetings, Outings, and Events for members and non-members! On both sites you will find the up-to-date schedule as dates and location are subject to change.

For more even more information please direct specific questions or inquiries to us at shighlandssierra@gmail.com.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Held at the New Jersey Water Supply Authority Annex, 1851 State Rte 31, Clinton 08809. Meetings start at 7:30 PM on Wednesdays (either the first or third) of the months below.

Sept 1  
 Oct 20  
 Nov 17  
 Dec 12 - Holiday Party

#### GENERAL MEETINGS:

Held at The Youth Center, 16 Hampton Road, Glen Gardner 08826.

Meetings start at 7:30 pm on the Wednesdays (either the first or third) of the months below.

**Sept 15:** Community Solar with Pam Frank from Sun Farm Network

**Oct 6:** Winter Birds and Feeding with Michael Pollock from the NJ Audubon

**Nov 3:** Fall Harvests with Catherine Suttle from the Hunterdon Land Trust

**OUTINGS:** We are in need of hike leaders - if you are interested, please contact David English, dgenglish@hotmail.com - Put "Sierra Club Hike Leader" in the Subject Line)

#### WHERE WE WILL BE:

Please check our Sierra Club Group Site or Facebook page for an up-to-date schedule of our events.

#### CURRENT ISSUES:

##### Millford Mill Cleanup

Georgia Pacific and International Paper have stepped up to the plate to take responsibility in the clean-up of the Mill prior to the designation by the EPA of the Mill as a superfund site. What this means is still unclear and the effort the companies will put forth will still have to be seen. The community advisory group will remain active overseeing the project. We are hoping that the project will lead to an environment clean and safe for the residents. As well, we do hope the site is used for something benefiting the community - whatever it may be.

#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Ever think about volunteering? Do you enjoy the outdoors and/or want to help protect our environment and open space in New Jersey? Do something about it! Join us to work on important environmental issues facing Hunterdon and Warren Counties, New Jersey, the United States, and the World. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Contact our group (shighlandssierra@gmail.com) to learn more about the Sierra Club and to join our Group.

### **North Jersey Group**

*(Bergen, Passaic and northern Morris Counties, approximately)*

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Mike Herson	mikeherson@hotmail.com
<b>Conserv'n Co-Chrs:</b>	Tom Thompson	201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com
	Mike Herson	mikeherson@hotmail.com
<b>Air Quality:</b>	Laura Coll	lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Ellen Blumenkrantz	eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
<b>Passaic Issues:</b>	Tricia Aspinwall	taspinwall@hotmail.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Greg Tondi	gregt75@yahoo.com
<b>Program Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Trail Maintenance:</b>	Marty Cohen	201-670-8383 martincohen@verizon.net
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tom Thompson	201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com
<b>US Public Lands:</b>	John Kashwick	201-660-8820 johnkashwick@optonline.net
<b>Wildlife Issues:</b>	Mary Ellen Shaw	201-906-4062

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Begin at 7:30 pm. Please check our website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North> for dates, locations and programs. If you would like to help organize programs, please contact Mike (above).

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:** To find out more or tell us about an issue, contact Mike or Tom (above).

(1) Hackensack River Watershed. We continue to oppose any disturbance to the Hackensack River's vegetative riparian corridors north of Route 4: they are essential for habitat, flood control and the health of the river. Bulldozing a pathway on the riverbank would greatly harm this fragile ecosystem where the Northern Harrier, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Osprey, and nesting Eagles have been observed. An extremely rare Redheaded Woodpecker has been spotted on Van Buskirk Island.

(2) Ramapo River Watershed. The Related Companies wants to build 1,196 housing units and 30,000 square feet of commercial space on forested slopes in Tuxedo, NY, a project that would degrade drinking water for 2.3 million New Jerseyans, destroy critical habitat (particularly for the threatened timber rattlesnake), and drastically alter the landscape (extensive tree clearing, blasting, bulldozing). Hundreds turned out in opposition at last winter's SEIS hearings.

Despite their potential threat to New Jersey's drinking water supply, Related may be soon be receiving a \$175 Million subsidy from the State of New Jersey. Related has had ongoing negotiations with the State's EDC to takeover the failed Xanadu project in the Meadowlands. Our State tax revenues would be diverted to assist the developer.

(3) NJ Highlands. Threats include the Tennessee Gas Pipeline's plan to cut through 230 acres containing C-1 streams, exceptional resource wetlands, critical habitat, and conservation priority lands; and PSE&G's proposed 500 kV Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line with 195-ft towers, a project that will pollute Highlands water, damage forests and slopes extensively, and spoil the views.

(4) Still under threat: Quinn Road in Clifton, now that Montclair State University is building a 2,000-unit dormitory; Soldier Hill wetlands in Paramus with the headwaters

**Find out if your community has proponents for a Community Solar Farm—that will accept residential subscribers.**

of a C1 brook that flows into the Oradell Reservoir; open space in Clifton at Latteri Park and; and parkland in Overpeck County Park (Leonia) from plans for a new road. We are supporting efforts to save the former Schultheis Farm for public access as a community garden and prevent it from losing its Green Acres status.

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE:** If you'd like to help maintain a hiking trail and can commit to do this at least once a year, please contact Marty Cohen (above).

**RECYCLE PRINTER CARTRIDGES:** Leave your used cartridges in the window box in the vestibule at Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road, Edgewater, 8am to 10pm daily. No rebuilt cartridges, please. Thanks!

**Hudson-Meadowlands Group**

*(Hudson County and southern Bergen County: Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgefield, Edgewater, Cliffside Park and Fairview)*

**OFFICERS/CHAIRS:**

<b>Chair:</b>	Jodi Jamieson*	917-804-8390	jodijami@mac.com
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Helen Manogue*	201-963-3511	
<b>Secretaries:</b>	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
	Ruth Olsen	201-868-6575	oof46@msn.com
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Mirjana Zivkovic*	201-758-8390	tenisko@hotmail.com
	Louise Taylor*	201-562-8390	LTAYLOR2@comcast.net
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Steve Lanset*	201-424-6348	slanset@hotmail.com
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Open Position!		
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Open Position!		
<b>Cool Cities Chair:</b>	Helen Manogue*	201-963-3511	
<b>Events Chair:</b>	Janet Glass*	201-868-4216	iguanaj@aol.com
<b>Palisades Landmark Status</b>			
<b>Comm. Vice Chair:</b>	David Kronick	201-869-6218	jktejas@aol.com
<b>Group ExCom</b>			
<b>Members*:</b>	Gil Hawkins*	201-944-5799	gilc3d2@aol.com
	Donald Koczynski*	201-224-2641	Littlechops03@netzero.com

**ELECTIONS:** It's that time of year again and we have four Executive Committee positions open this year. Up for re-election are Gil Hawkins and Mirjana Zivkovic. Running for ExCom positions for the first time are Judith Courtney and Ruth Olsen.

Judith Courtney is a Life Member of the Sierra Club since the last millennium, has been co-Secretary of the H-M Group for the past two years, and is active on her condo board against Applevew.

Gil Hawkins has been on our Executive Committee for five years. He is Executive Director of the Overpeck Preserve and Environmental Director of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association.

Ruth Olsen has been co-Secretary for the H-M Group with her sister Judith for the past two years; her 38 years of teaching middle school students has prepared her for all types of activist encounters.

Mirjana Zivkovic has been the Group's Conservation chair for several years. She works tirelessly for the protection of open space in our urban landscape. Fighting reckless development is her specialty.

Please take the time to vote for our Group's ExCom members on page 2!

**MEETINGS:** The Hudson-Meadowlands Group holds their meetings during the last week of each month. Please contact the Secretaries, Judith or Ruth for more information about the next meetings and/or check out our web page: [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Hudson/njs\\_hudson.asp](http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Hudson/njs_hudson.asp).

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:** Our group is involved with protecting open space in our urban area. We are currently focused on 5 conservation campaigns and issues:

- 1) We're promoting a riverfront park on the last 6 acres of Hudson Riverfront in North Bergen (opposing a 256-Unit development).
- 2) We're promoting safety over greed by opposing the Applevew development on River Road that abuts a major high pressure gas line;
- 3) We are studying the High Pressure Gas line proposal in Jersey City;
- 4) We have resolved to stop the removal of ROSI land in Edgewater by inadvertence;
- 5) We also support a more thorough superfund clean-up by the EPA of the Quantas Site on our beautiful Hudson River than the EPA has just proposed.

There's still some natural beauty in our urban areas. It won't last long without your help! Get involved in the fight to save some of this last open space in Hudson County. To find out how you can take some action call Jodi or Helen.

**Gateway Group (formerly Essex County Group)**

*(Essex County except for Livingston and Milburn; plus Elizabeth)*

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Essex/>. Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site.

**OFFICERS:** The Gateway Group is in reorganization. To facilitate this, the Chapter Executive Committee has assigned mediators to help rebuild and strengthen the Group. Gateway members will receive a postcard giving the time and place of a reorganization meeting. Questions? Contact Joan Denzer: [jdenzer73@yahoo.com](mailto:jdenzer73@yahoo.com).

**ACTIVITIES:** Presently working with land conservation groups to preserve 120 acres atop the Second Watchung Mountain (known as the West Essex Highlands) in West Orange as open space. Also working to preserve a five-acre forested tract in West Orange and an ancient forest on Gov. McClellan's former estate. Contact Sally Malanga at 973-736-7397 or [sally@eccobella.com](mailto:sally@eccobella.com) or Linda Stiles at 973-736-2224 or [birdlady07052@msn.com](mailto:birdlady07052@msn.com) if you want to get involved.

**Loantaka Group**

*(Morris and Union Counties except for Elizabeth, plus Livingston and Milburn, approximately)*

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>

**OFFICERS:**

<b>Group Co-Chairs:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hhaausker@gmail.com
<b>and</b>	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White		joyce00201@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>			
<b>Morris County:</b>	Bill Martin	908-604-2505	WP1.Martin@gmail.com
<b>Union County:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hhaausker@gmail.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Meiling Chin		chinmeiling@yahoo.com
<b>Programs:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Education Coordinator:</b>	Jeff Huppert	973-263-0344	jeffhup@optonline.net
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hhaausker@gmail.com
<b>Outreach &amp; Events</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	johansons@comcast.net
<b>Membership:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Air Quality Coordinator:</b>	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	bobc2023_sc@verizon.net
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Paul Sanderson		paulmsanderson@aol.com
<b>Greenbrook:</b>	Bob Muska	908-665-2296	rmuska@erols.com

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. Or come to one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

To find out our activities, go to: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>

To join our e-mailing list, go to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/nj-loantaka-news.html>

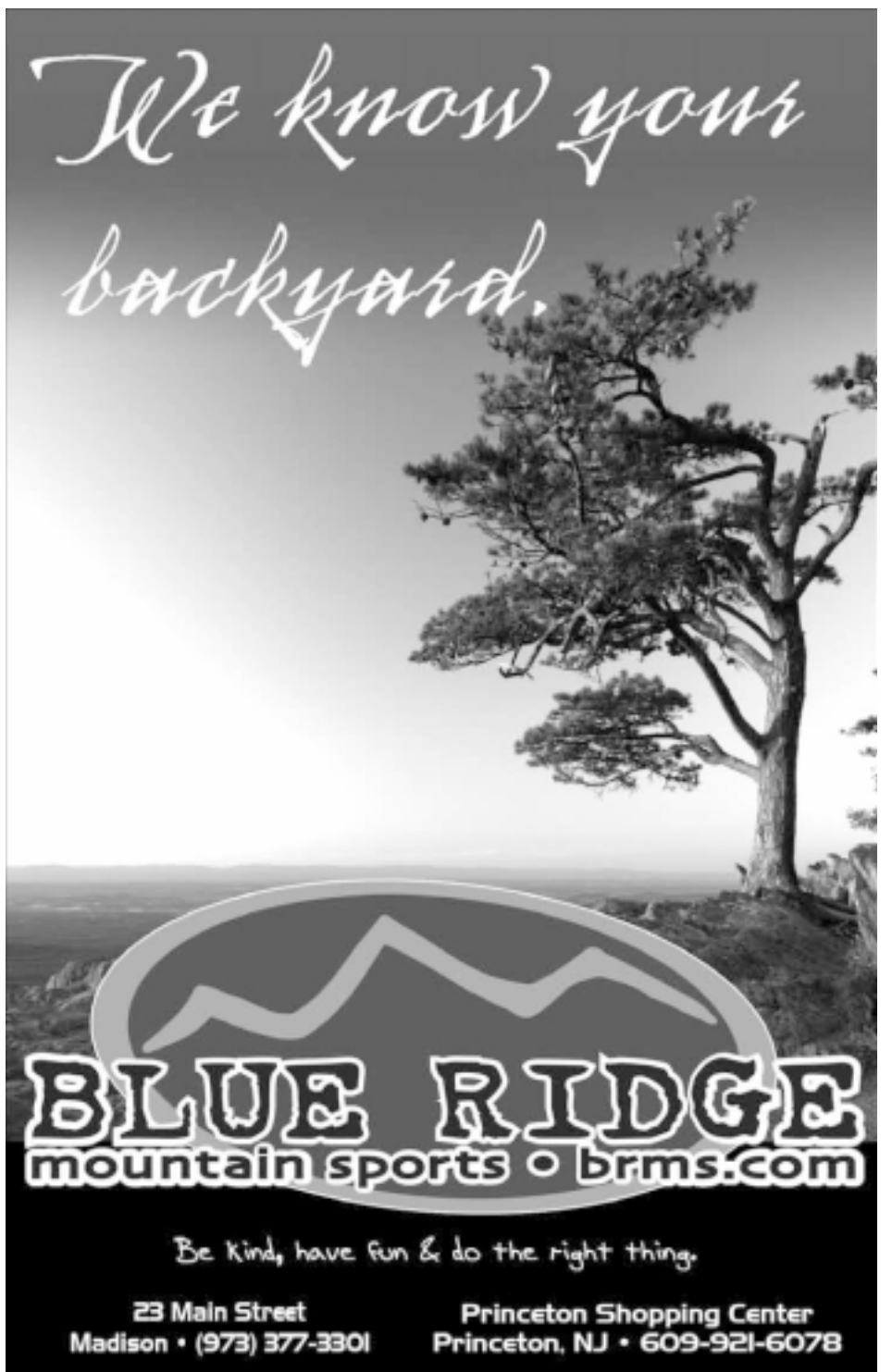
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham.

All members are welcome at Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have open positions on it! If you would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham.

Come learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us!

*(Continued on page 8)*



## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

**DIRECTIONS:** Directions are posted on our website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>.

### MEETING SCHEDULE:

**Oct 13:** The NJ American Water Company will present information on what it is doing to replace the nearly 90-year-old Canoe Brook Water Treatment Plant in Millburn to supply clean water to various municipalities located in Essex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union Counties. Come out to ask questions and find out just what is happening to your water!

**Nov 10:** To be announced.

**Dec 8:** To be announced.

**ACTIVITIES:** (Consult our website (<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>) for more information.)

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414) or Eric (732-669-0719).

Box: The Loantaka Group had another successful fundraiser with Gift Certificates provided by the following local donors:

The Mayo Center for the Performing Arts (Morristown)  
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra  
Colonial Symphony Orchestra (Morristown)  
Westfield Symphony Orchestra  
Sages Pages Bookstore (Madison)  
North Jersey School of Dog Grooming (Chatham)  
Ahrre's Coffee Roastery (Westfield)  
Blue Ridge Mountain Sports Store (Madison)  
Farley's Place Luncheonette (Chatham)  
R.E.I. (East Hanover)  
Charley's Aunt Bar & Restaurant (Chatham)  
The Brick Oven (Morristown)  
The Stirling Hotel Restaurant (Stirling)  
Shop Rite (Clark)  
Natale's Family Bakery (Summit)

If possible, give these generous merchants some business.  
If other Groups would like to do a similar e-mail fundraiser, contact Eric.

## Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/central>. You can also find us on Facebook. Please visit us for conservation news, meetings, event details and last-minute announcements. Also volunteer to help with our pages.

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
<b>CoChair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Don Carlo	609-586-4357	documentsdon@gmail.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Leona Fluck	609-259-3734	leona@pineypaddlers.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
<b>Program Chair:</b>	Lynne Weiss	732-821-9688	lshari05@gmail.com
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
<b>ExCom At-large:</b>	Malcolm McFarland	609-448-8699	jmmcfarland81@gmail.com
<b>ExCom At-large:</b>	Ruth Ann Mitchell		ram400500@yahoo.com
<b>ExCom At-large:</b>	Tamanna Mohapatra	732-801-9629	tmohapatra@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Outreach:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		

The Central Group is working in the greater Mercer area on local environmental issues to preserve open space, promote effective planning, and protect wetlands and trails as well as on state-wide and national issues. We also have an invasive species eradication program underway in the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh. We oppose the Carter Road development in Hopewell and the Meadowbrook warehouse/flex space in Robbinsville. We also oppose the PurGen project in Linden, the electric power-lines through the Delaware Water Gap, the Tennessee Gas pipeline through NJ state parks, and hydrofracking in the Marcellus Shale. We support Asw. Linda Greenstein for 14th District State Senator, and reelection of Rep Rush Holt.

**We need you!** Thinking of becoming involved? Opportunities abound. Want to help out? We are looking for people to focus on particular conservation issues as well to assist with Group functioning in our open positions. Try volunteering for a few hours or an event! Please contact Terry (609-731-7016) or Leona (Leona@pineypaddlers.com).

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** All Sierra Club members are invited to find out what's happening and volunteer to help too! Please contact Terry.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our meetings are held from 7:30 to 9pm (pre-meeting social at 7) on the THIRD TUESDAY at the Whisk and Spoon meeting room of Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Rte 1 South, Princeton. No general meeting in July, August and December; special event in January.

**Oct 19 (Tue):** Ocean Exploration from the Jersey Shore to the Solar System. Rutgers U Prof Peter A Rona, PhD, will present a firsthand illustrated account of new discoveries from exploration of the giant Hudson Submarine Canyon offshore NJ and NY, to hot springs and life forms new to science on a submerged volcanic mountain range that extends through all the oceans of the world, to oceans and implications for life in our solar system and beyond.

**Nov 16 (Tue):** Margo Pellegrino, a New Jersey resident, will provide a first hand account of her adventures solo paddling the coasts to raise awareness of the plight of the oceans. This summer she is spending three months paddling from Seattle to San Diego. Learn what needs to be done to protect the ocean waters. You can follow her blog at <http://www.seattle2sandiego.com/>

**CENTRAL OUTINGS and SPECIAL EVENTS** are listed on the NJSC Outings webpage and on our pages.

## Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Roomi Nusrat	908-429-9017	sierra_nj_rartian@att.net
<b>Group Vice Chair:</b>	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
<b>Conservation Advisor:</b>	Jane Tousman	908-561-5504	jdtous@aol.com
<b>Outings Coordinator:</b>	Denise McClellan		mcclellan09@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Roomi Nusrat		
<b>Recycling Coordinator:</b>	Open position!		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Open position!		
<b>Secretary:</b>	Open position!		
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Open position!		
<b>Membership:</b>	Open position!		

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/RaritanValley/>

Please visit our website for the timing and location of our monthly meetings, usually on a weekday evening of the third week of every month and well as any other special events.

Meetings Location: Bound Brook Memorial Library, Somerset County Library System  
402 E High Street, Bound Brook NJ 08805. Phone: 732-356-0043

The monthly meetings are to keep you informed of environmental and organizational concerns in our communities and to inform you on things you can do to preserve and protect the environment. Please attend our meetings as indicated on our web-site.

We encourage you to attend your town's planning/zoning board or land use board meetings. If you are aware of development proposals in your town that may have a negative environmental impact, PLEASE communicate concerns by attending our meetings and by contacting us.

## Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

**Web Site:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/JerseyShore/>

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Dennis Anderson	732-970-4327	dennisaza@aol.com
	6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747		
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Open position!		
<b>Secretary:</b>	Joe DeLuca	732-389-1835	joe-deluca@att.net
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Faith Teitelbaum	732-229-0553	faithtei@aol.com
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Lud Lanko	732-462-2199	lud@pobox.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	fusche40@yahoo.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Shahnaz Shahidain	732-666-4285	shahidain@gmail.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Mike Verange	908-902-0718	mjverange@aol.com
<b>Membership Co-Chairs:</b>	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	nyucwnyppb@aol.com
	and April Klimley	917-626-4838	AprilJeanK@aol.com
<b>Program Chair:</b>	George Moffatt	732-544-1726	gmofattgt@aol.com
<b>Fund-raising Co-Chairs:</b>	Lois Blake	732-863-5917	lqblake@optonline.net
	and Joellen Lundy	732-741-4756	jfutey@comcast.net

### Shore Group Happenings:

The Shore Group is working on getting Green Teams formed in all the towns in our area. These teams help towns to become more sustainable and thereby increase our quality of life. We are working with the Sustainable Jersey program which gives points to towns for forming Green Teams. Contact Lois Blake (lqblake@optonline.net) if you want us to help you with your green team. See [www.SustainableJersey.org](http://www.SustainableJersey.org) for more info. It's a great program!

Along with Monmouth University, we are in the process of forming a coalition of all the towns on the Whale Pond Brook watershed. Our goal is to clean the watershed and keep it clean by educating the surrounding towns about fertilizers, integrated pest management and storm water run-off. Our first project on the watershed is to help build a rain garden in Long Branch with the Long Branch Environmental Commission.

**Help Needed:** If you would like to participate in cleanups of our local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at [l.bagwell3@verizon.net](mailto:l.bagwell3@verizon.net). In this vital effort, our Group joins forces with the Navesink Swimming River Group which since 2002 has removed more than 40,000 pounds of debris from our local banks and streams.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August and December - at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 1475 West Front Street, Lincroft (please check the congregation's website for directions (<http://www.uucmc.org/where-we-are.htm>) or use Google or MapQuest). Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For additional directions or information,



please contact Dennis Anderson or Faith Teitelbaum (above), or visit our web site at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/JerseyShore/>.

**Sept 27:** Dave Grant, director of the Ocean Institute at Brookdale Community College, will describe a six-week sabbatical he took last year to cruise the Pacific on a NOAA research vessel during a special "Teachers on the Seas" environmental studies program. Dave also is in charge of the college's popular hands-on marine studies program for elementary and high school students at Sandy Hook.

**Oct 25:** Bonnie Tillery of the NJ Chapter of the Sierra Club recently returned from a Sierra Club National Committee study trip to India. Bonnie, the NJ Population Issues Coordinator, will discuss the implications of India being on track to overtake China as the world's most populous country with 1.3 billion people by 2020. She will explain how India is trying to slow its population growth and preserve the environment.

**Nov 22:** Richard Bizub, director of water programs for the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, will discuss the environmental problems facing the Pinelands, a unique 1.1-million-acre habitat with a surprising variety of scenery, habitats and species, including important underground aquifers. When development threatened the Pine Barrens, the state passed the Pinelands Protection Act of 1979, which created the Pinelands National Reserve and the New Jersey Pinelands Commission. Even so, the Pinelands are under continuous threat from development.

**Dec 12:** 3-6pm - The Group's annual pot luck holiday party will be held at Joellen Lundy's home: 25 Peters Place, Red Bank. Members should contact Joellen at [jfutey@comcast.net](mailto:jfutey@comcast.net) if they plan to come. Everyone is asked to bring hor d'ouvres, cakes or other hot and cold dishes, as well as soda, wine or beer. Members of other Groups would be welcome to stop by and say hello.

## Ocean County Group

Website: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq.	732-451-9220	<a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@aol.com">sierraclubOC@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice-Chair,</b>			
<b>Outings:</b>	Dawn Marie Johns	732-644-6340	<a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@hotmail.com">sierraclubOC@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Conservation</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Margit Meissner-Jackson	609-296-4367	<a href="mailto:sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com">sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jill Palmer	732-928-0988	<a href="mailto:palmer2x2@aol.com">palmer2x2@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Gregory Auriemma	732-451-9220	<a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@aol.com">sierraclubOC@aol.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Nancy Brown	732-892-6089	<a href="mailto:nancybrown624@comcast.net">nancybrown624@comcast.net</a>
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Howard Schwartz	609-242-9304	<a href="mailto:hirschschwartz@comcast.net">hirschschwartz@comcast.net</a>
<b>Fund-Raising:</b>	Joyce M. Isaza	732-920-9270	<a href="mailto:realtymstr@aol.com">realtymstr@aol.com</a>
<b>Environmental</b>			
<b>Consultant:</b>	Helen Henderson	908-278-9807	<a href="mailto:hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com">hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com</a>
<b>Env'l Education</b>			
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Terrance Brown	848-333-7331	<a href="mailto:terrybrown@comcast.net">terrybrown@comcast.net</a>

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Generally held on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the Ocean County Library.

**ACTIVITIES & ISSUES:** We're hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the Jersey Coast, defending the Endangered Species Act, fighting Mountain Top Removal and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We've also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the massive "over-development" of Jackson Township and Lakewood. We're also involved in the campaigns to create a new park at "Anchor Reef" on Barnegat Bay and to stop "nitrogen pollution" of the Bay. Protecting the Ocean County Hiking Trail in Lacey. We're watching the progress of the first Wind Turbine erected in the County which resides in Ocean Gate. We're also involved in creating a greener and sustainable environment in Ocean County.

Volunteers are needed to help with these all issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising and a computer-based voter education program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about our activities and events, please visit our web site: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean).

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS:** General Meetings are held bi-monthly (i.e., in alternate months) usually on the FOURTH MONDAY at 7pm at the "Skywalk Cafe" in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River.

**Oct 3 (Sun):** Join us for the 16th Annual Cattus Island Nature Festival in Toms River. The event will be from 9am to 4pm and there will be fun for all ages. Show up early to sign up for a kayak or pontoon boat ride. There will be tours and film presentations. To volunteer for our environmental information table to help protect Barnegat Bay or help out at our food concession, please contact our Chair, Greg Auriemma at 732-451-9220.

**Oct 9 (Sat):** Come down and visit our table at the Pine Barrens Jamboree at the Wells Mills Park in Waretown where we'll have our environmental information table to continue to garner support to save Barnegat Bay, plus our ever-popular food concession. We will be having 2 hikes within the park. For information on volunteering either at the information table or food concession, please contact Group Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-451-9220. For details of the hikes, please call our Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340. This event is from 10am until 4pm.

**Oct 16 (Sat):** Please join us for our fall hike. We will be exploring a section of the Batona Trail. To register or for details on the hiking location, please call our Outings Chair, Dawn Marie Johns, at 732-644-6340.

**Oct 23 (Sat):** The Ocean County Sierra Club will be hosting a concert to save the planet. You will not want to miss this opportunity! Please check our web site for further details or contact our Chair, Greg Auriemma at 732-451-9220.

**Nov 22 (Mon):** GENERAL MEETING held at 7pm at the "SKYWALK CAFE" in Toms River. The main topic of the meeting will be on the Congressional Election. For further details please check our web site.

**Dec 11 (Sat):** Please mark your calendars for our 6th annual holiday party and silent auction fund raiser. This great event will take place at 7pm at the Skywalk Cafe located in downtown Toms River. Join us for food, fun and a chance to get a start on your holiday gift shopping. Last year dozens of merchants in Ocean County made donations to support our auction. If you would like to help out or for more details please contact our Fund Raising Chair Joyce Isaza at 732-604-4583.

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzev1ujt/>

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Gina Carola	856-848-8831	<a href="mailto:ginacee@verizon.net">ginacee@verizon.net</a>
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Frank Zinni		<a href="mailto:efzin4@aol.com">efzin4@aol.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ellen Zinni		<a href="mailto:efzin4@aol.com">efzin4@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Trish Clements		<a href="mailto:patri321@comcast.net">patri321@comcast.net</a>
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Bud Kaliss	856-428-8071	<a href="mailto:budkaliss@verizon.net">budkaliss@verizon.net</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Nancy Rone		<a href="mailto:NancyRone@comcast.net">NancyRone@comcast.net</a>
<b>Pinelands Rep:</b>	Lee Snyder		<a href="mailto:pinelands1@hotmail.com">pinelands1@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Greenways Coord's:</b>	Frank and Ellen Zinni		<a href="mailto:efzin4@aol.com">efzin4@aol.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Stacey Ayala		<a href="mailto:thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com">thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Delegate at Large:</b>	Aida Ayala		<a href="mailto:thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com">thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Mike Brown	856-547-9221	<a href="mailto:eyebrown@snip.net">eyebrown@snip.net</a>
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Open position!	Call Gina to volunteer.	856-848-8831
<b>Smart Growth Chair:</b>	Open position!	Call Gina to volunteer.	856-848-8831
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	Open position!	Call Gina to volunteer.	856-848-8831
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Open position!	Call Gina to volunteer.	856-848-8831

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, September thru May at the Quaker Meeting Hall on Friends Ave in Haddonfield.

**Directions:** From I-295, take exit 34B onto Rte 70 West. Follow the signs for Rte 41 South, which is Kings Hwy (you will have to exit to the right into a jug handle and then turn left onto Rte 41 (Kings Hwy). Cross over Rte 70 and you will be briefly on Rte 154 (Brace Rd). Make the next right and then the next left onto Kings Hwy. After about 1 mile, you will cross Grove Rd (Indian King Tavern is on the right corner). After crossing Grove Rd, go two more blocks and turn right on to Friends Ave. Go one block to the Meeting House. Park in the lot next to the Meeting House and enter the auditorium through the doors on the right side of the building. Do not go into the Meeting House.

**Oct 13:** New Member Welcome Party. Open to all members, new and long timers, and interested non-members. At this meeting we will welcome new members who joined in 2010. We will discuss the issues currently being worked on, look at possible new issues, and discuss volunteer opportunities.

**Nov 10:** Landscape photographer Albert D Horner will present "Pinelands: A Visual Journey". For a preview, visit the website at <http://www.pinelandsimagery.com>

**Dec 8:** Year-end Wrap-Up and holiday party. Join us as we discuss our successes and on-going efforts. Help us plan for 2011.

## South Jersey Group

(Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties, approximately)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group, Outings Chair:</b>	Tom Boghosian	609-625-0878	<a href="mailto:boghosian1@verizon.net">boghosian1@verizon.net</a>
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Douglas Jewell	609-780-7129	<a href="mailto:jewellrea@comcast.net">jewellrea@comcast.net</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Political Chair,</b>			
<b>Calendars:</b>	Dick Colby	609-965-4453	<a href="mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu">dick.colby@stockton.edu</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	Julie Akers	856-697-3479	<a href="mailto:julie_akers@hughes.net">julie_akers@hughes.net</a>

The Cape May County Conservation Committee hosts bi-monthly educational presentations at The Free Meal Center, 1206 Route 9 South, Cape May Court House NJ 08210 (note new location!). Our get-togethers are 7-8:30pm, each with a guest speaker covering an environmental topic ranging from wind power and solar power to aquifers and habitat. The Chair is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail [jewellrea@comcast.net](mailto:jewellrea@comcast.net), cell phone 609-780-7129), or call Vilma Pombo at 609-465-3565. Look for our meeting notices in the CMC Herald.

The central conservation issue, for which the South Jersey Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active both within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that "spun off" from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we once scheduled. For now, we'll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a point of contact for Club members in South Jersey who want help with local issues. We strongly recommend GEHWA's website for keeping up with local issues, and for links to many other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: [www.gehwa.org](http://www.gehwa.org). If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey. To be placed on a carefully guarded distribution list for local issues and meetings, please e-mail [dick.colby@stockton.edu](mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu).

**Current Issues:** In addition to our opposition to the extension of Rte 55 into Cape May County (see article on p.5), two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [[shanleyg2001@yahoo.com](mailto:shanleyg2001@yahoo.com)]. Club officers and staff have been following closely the several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who

(continued on page 10)

**Become active in one of your Group's conservation campaigns! Attend a Group meeting! Meetings offer interesting speakers and topics, nice fellow-members, and usually food!**

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

authorize development. Other hot issues include damage done to sand trails by ATVs, a campaign to promote Community Solar (photovoltaic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act (A930/S1467).

### Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

Oct 20 and Dec 15, 7pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Representatives of the 12 municipalities discuss river management strategies. Open to the public. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC\*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Oct 21, Nov 18 and Dec 16, 7pm: Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meetings of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Park System. All are welcome. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Nov 10, 6:30 pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries: Meeting place: Gant Room, Millville Public Library, 210 Buck Street. Cumberland County development issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Renee Brecht (CU) at 856-305-3238 or rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com. Website: www.cumauriceriver.org.

Nov 23, 7 pm: Members' meeting of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Assn, open to the public. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

## Singles Section

(A chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, meetings, etc.)

Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of singles-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us. We are not a local group; we are a statewide additional "layer" of Club involvement. Everyone is welcome to attend our events. Come out and meet fellow Club members and others who care about the environment. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them - if you have the slightest urge to get involved, please give in to it!

Webpage address: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Singles/>

The BEST way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our free listserv. Anyone may subscribe by going to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html> and clicking on "Join or leave the list." You may subscribe and unsubscribe at will; directions on how to unsubscribe are at the bottom of each announcement. We recommend joining the listserv as some events are advertised only by email. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view an archive of all prior messages at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html>.

### OFFICERS:

Chair:	Joe Testa	testa-j@live.com
Outings Chair:	Joyce Haddad	jkhaddad@juno.com
Conservation Chair:	Joe Testa	testa-j@live.com
Treasurer:	Joyce White	joycewhite@netzero.net
Webpage designer:	Tom Miller	millertom@juno.com
Social Chair:	Joe Prebish	Joe.Prebish@kraft.com
Vice Social Chair:	Jeff Sovelove	Hiker_Dood@Yahoo.com
Programs:	<i>Open Position</i>	- Contact us! We need you!
Publicity:	<i>Open Position</i>	- Contact us! We need you!
Cool Cities Coordinator:	Terry Stimpfel	terystimb@hotmail.com
Membership:	<i>Open Position</i>	- Contact us! We need you!
Nominations:	Nancy Sullivan	nancysullivan@comcast.net

**Volunteer Opportunities:** We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including social event planners. Please attend an executive committee meeting or email any of the officers if you are interested. You may co-chair any position with a friend, if desired. We're happy to help you learn the ropes.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Casual pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, speakers, and letter-writing at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Dates and topics will be announced on our listserv; see above for subscription information.

**ExCom MEETINGS** take place once a month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for location.

### SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

**SOCIAL DINNER: FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Famished Frog. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

**SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY** of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in a Montclair restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the social. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

**Consider volunteering with the Cool Cities Campaign.** The message and method of empowering groups to manage carbon dioxide emissions are relevant for public and private school systems, nonprofit community operations, etc. in New Jersey. Volunteers with diverse skills and contacts are important for environmental success. Sign on now. Want to promote the Cool Cities goals but have limited free time? Contact Terry Stimpfel at terystimb@hotmail.com with your ideas and to learn about short duration assignments.

### HIKES:

Please join our listserv to receive notification of our outings See above for instructions on how to subscribe to the listserv.

## Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section

(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers and other functions intended for those members over fifty). In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy, at no charge.

The mission of this section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues.

We work through a "List Serve," by which members learn about current environmental issues, and how they can be supported.

Arline Zatz is the editor of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@funtravels.com. and invites members to check her web site at [www.funtravels.com](http://www.funtravels.com) for trips and travel information.

## Young Sierrans

(A special interest section for Sierra Club Members in their 20's & 30's, providing Socials and Outings to inspire a sense of community, appreciation for the environment, and involvement in preserving our future. Many events are open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)

Web site: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans/>

### YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Head Chair & Coordinator:	William Sevchuk	wsevchuk@yahoo.com
Vice Chair:	<i>Open Position! Please Contact Us!</i>	
Moderator:	Diana Christine Eichholz	MistyAngel22@aol.com
Conservation Chair:	Steve Timmerman	skiingsteve@aol.com
Webmaster:	Julie Garber	journey7@optonline.net
Ex-Com/YS		
National Rep. (CA)	Jackie Enfield	jackie@jackieenfield.com
Northern Jersey YS Rep.	Jim DeSantis	green@northjerseygreendrinks.com
Outings Chair:		
(Northern Jersey)	<i>Open Position! Please Contact Us!</i>	
Outings Chair: (Central Jersey)	Leon Yerenburg	lyerenburg@gmail.com
Outings Chair: (South Jersey)	<i>Open Position! Please Contact Us!</i>	

We need Young Sierran Outing Leaders for all areas, but extra especially for the Northern and South Jersey areas. We will help you step-by-step through the training process to properly lead hikes and outdoor activities. Reimbursement, insurance and guidance are provided under the Sierra Club's membership. If interested contact Chair or Young Sierran Coordinator at [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com)

**EVENTS:** Volunteers for events throughout New Jersey wanted. Meet great people in your area! Publicity provided. Contact Coordinator at [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com) for information.

All Events will be announced via The Young Sierrans' E-Mail List Serve. To be put on it, send an e-mail to [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com) with subject heading "Young Sierrans E-Mail List" -- or to subscribe directly go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-YOUNG-SIERRANS-NEWS.html>. Events for 20's only are available for those wanting to volunteer to host 20's only events. Young Sierran Event Volunteers always needed and welcomed.

## Sierra Student Coalition

(a semi-autonomous organization of college and high-school students)

National Website: <http://www.ssc.org/>

## Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)

### OFFICERS:

Chair:	Marty Cohen	201-670-8383	martincohen@verizon.net
Treasurer:	Anne Dyjak	732-560-0953	annedyjak@verizon.net

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program, providing wilderness adventures for city youth of New Jersey. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings (generally day-trips) mostly on weekends. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing inner-city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact Marty at the above e-mail address. To learn more, visit our webpage at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>.

Our big day last summer was July 9, when we managed to take 30 kids into the woods (on two separate hikes). Let's hear it for Don McBride, Rebecca Schmoyer, Susan Nold, Wanda Davenport, (and Marty, too)! Almost none of the thirty teenagers from Paterson had ever hiked before, so we afforded them a great educational experience.

Other volunteers who have helped on our recent outings (and I mean really helped) were: Claire Calandra, Sean Noble, Lynda Goldschein, and Allison Cohen.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Want to help the environment? If you're a student wishing an environmental internship, or retired and wanting to do something useful, or otherwise available for a few hours each week, our Trenton office could use some reliable volunteer staffing. Easy commuting distance from River Line and Northeast Corridor communities. Tasks include answering the phone, compiling mailings and reports, investigating issues, taking notes at legislative hearings, planning events, helping our members, etc. Contact Kara Seymour: [Kara.Seymour@sierraclub.org](mailto:Kara.Seymour@sierraclub.org) or 609-656-7612.



# Outings

Learn more about your environment...  
take a Sierra Club educational hike!

## GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

**Central Jersey:** Leona Fluck 609-259-3734 (H) leona@pineypaddlers.com  
**Essex County:** David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H) 64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003  
**Hudson-Meadowlands:** Vacant  
**Hunterdon:** Susan Schirmer 908-996-7722 (H)  
**Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H) 1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738  
**Loantaka:** Joyce White 908-272-4478 (H) joyce00201@yahoo.com  
**North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com  
**Northwest Jersey:** Pat Mangino pmangino@aol.com  
**Raritan Valley:** Vacant  
**South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H) 4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330 boghosian1@verizon.net  
**West Jersey:** Vacant  
**River Touring:** Fred Tocce 908-453-2205 (H) Rd 1 Box 277, Washington, NJ 07882  
**Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H) NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059  
**Chapter Outings:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Outing Leaders:** Please send Jan.-Mar. 2011 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before Nov 1. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it for the previous Sierran, due to the occasional lag in mailing. Also, please send outing rosters or sign-up sheets to the Chapter Office as soon as possible after each outing.

**Note:** If possible, leaders should send their trip descriptions to the Group Outings Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

**Group Outings Coordinators:** Please submit your January-March trip write-ups by Nov 5.

**NOTES ON OUTINGS:** In general, all Outings are open to Club members, guests and anyone interested in outings. Unless otherwise specified, the events are free and open to the public. ALL participants must sign liability waivers on ALL outings sponsored by Sierra Club. This is a new policy. Please check with the leader before bringing small children on an outing. A parent or other responsible adult must accompany persons under 18. At their discretion, leaders may permit pets on outings if the event description specifically includes bringing pets.

Sierra Club outings are arranged by volunteer leaders who are in charge of the trip and responsible for the safe-

ty, welfare and enjoyment of all participants. Leaders determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, routes to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. For day hikes, lunch, water (at least a liter), extra clothing, rain gear, and emergency equipment should be carried in a small daypack. For all except easy hikes, sturdy over-the-ankle shoes or boots should be worn. For most trips, you are expected to have your own equipment. In some cases, it may be rented from outdoor/camping suppliers -check the yellow pages or call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the date of the outing, you may assume that it will take place, unless the schedule indicates otherwise.

Unless registration is required, such as for weekend trips or river tours, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. Do not call to join a trip after the posted deadline date. When phoning a leader, please honor his or her requested calling times and call 3 to 5 days before the outing. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing to a leader. On popular trips, Sierra Club members will be given preference.

Watercraft trips let you experience the unspoiled parts of our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The size and skill of each party must be appropriate to each river, so participation in each trip must be at the discretion of the leader. We ask you to register at least one week in advance. Unless a phone number is provided, please send a SASE with an honest assessment of your paddling experience, whether you need or can offer a ride, your phone number, and any questions you may have. You will receive a description of the trip, with directions, where you can rent a canoe, and what you will need to bring. Almost all trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be coming by yourself. Unless stated otherwise: rental canoes are available, trips do not require advanced paddling skill or exceptional physical conditioning, public transportation is not available, non-members may participate, and responsible smokers are welcome.

If you are a Sierra Club member interested in becoming an Outing Leader or have suggestions for new outings, contact your Group Outings Chair or the Chapter Outings Chair for assistance and further information. The Sierra Group contributing each outing is given at the end of the write-up, as follows:

(C) Central Jersey	(JS) - Jersey Shore
(L) - Loantaka	(N) - North Jersey
(NW) - Northwest Jersey	(S) - South Jersey
(W) - West Jersey	(NJ) - NJ Chapter
(H) - Hudson	(RV) - Raritan Valley
(IC) - Inner City Outings	(RT) - River Touring
(E) - Essex County	(ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm

**Oct 23 (Sat): Delaware Water Gap Circular (Warren Co.) 9:30 am.** 10-mile hike up Mt. Tammany and along the Kittatinny Ridge to Sunfish Pond and return via Appalachian Trail. This hike has a diversity of landscapes and many scenic views. The pace will be moderate, but the trail up is steep and rocky so participants should be in good condition. Must pre-register. Leader: Bob Muska: rmuska@verizon.net. (L)

**Oct 24 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Bulls Island to Lambertville (Hunterdon/Mercer Co.) 10am.** This is the first of 5 trips as we paddle the entire D&R Canal www.dandrcanal.com/history.html. This first trip is 8 miles from Bulls Island State Park to Firemen's Eddy. There are 2 portages, bring portage wheels if you have them. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Oct 27 (Wed) Clayton Park Hike (Monmouth Co.) 10am.** 5 miles, easy/moderate pace, mix of hilly and flat trails. Dogs are welcome! This rustic 421-acre site in rural Upper Freehold is located amidst the rolling farmland of western Monmouth County. Bring lunch and beverages. We'll have lunch after the hike. Directions: I-195 to exit 11 (Imlaystown/Cox's Corner). Eastbound, turn right and follow to end; westbound, turn left and follow to end. Turn left onto Rte 526 and make immediate right onto Imlaystown-Davis Station Rd. Follow to Emley's Hill Rd, turn left. Follow to Park on left. Leaders: Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Oct 31 (Sun): Halloween Canoe/Kayak Trip on the D&R Canal (Mercer Co.) 9am.** Wear your "finest" Halloween outfit and join us for a fun paddle on the D&R Canal. The trip is 10 miles from Firemen's Eddy to Lower Ferry Rd. Our lunch break will be at Washington Crossing Park - bring lunch and beverage. There are 2 portages, bring portage wheels if you have them. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

## NOVEMBER

**Nov 2 (Tues): Canoe/Kayak on the Crosswicks Creek (Mercer Co.) 9:30 am.** Fall foliage will be lovely on the Crosswicks Creek as we paddle with the tide from Bordentown to Anchor Thread Park in Groveville and return to Bordentown after lunch. Bring your lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Nov 6 (Sat): Roebling Park and Marsh Land Cleanup (Mercer Co.) 9am-noon.** Spring Lake area. Bring gloves if you have them, water to drink; wear long sleeves, long pants. Meet at Spring Lake - Roebling Park (end of Sewell Ave., Hamilton). Co-leaders: Tamanna 732-801-9629, tmohapatra@yahoo.com and Don Carlo. (Cosponsors with Friends for the Marsh: Central Jersey Chapter Sierra Club, Mercer County Parks, D&R Greenway Land Trust). (C)

**Nov 7 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Lawrenceville to Kingston (Mercer Co.) 9am.** Our third D&R Canal trip is 12 miles from Cherry Tree Lane to Kingston - no portages either! Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Nov 11 (Thurs): Hike on Veterans Day at Veterans Park (Mercer Co.) 10am.** 5 miles, easy pace. This magnificent 333-acre park was built in honor of Hamilton Township's veterans in 1977. Thanks to the efforts of the township's Patriotic Committee, the park is now the home for an F-4 Phantom Jet which honors veterans. Meet at Mastoris Restaurant parking lot, 144 Rte130, Bordentown. Veterans Park is a short drive from the restaurant. Option for late lunch at Mastoris. Leashed dogs are welcome. Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Nov 13 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.) 9am.** The days are much shorter but we still have plenty of time to paddle 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Meet at Double Trouble Park, Pinewald-Keswick and Double Trouble Rds. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Nov 13 (Sat): Apshawa Preserve, West Milford (Passaic Co.) 10am.** 7 miles in 4 hours, in hilly terrain. There are no facilities at this site. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. No beginners. No pets. Registration required: email the leader: Jimi Oleksiak (The\_Hikist@Mac.com). If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, send a brief description of your hiking experience to the hike leader. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Description: http://www.passaiccountynj.org/parkshistorical/parks/apshawapreserve.htm

**Nov 13 (Sat): Jockey Hollow Grand Loop (Morris Co.) 10am.** 5 miles, moderate to slow pace. We will do the parts of the Grand Loop, blue trail, and yellow trail at Jockey Hollow National Park in Morristown. We will stop at the soldier's huts. See http://www.nps.gov/morr/planyourvisit/directions.htm for directions and information. Bring lots of water, a light snack, and wear hiking boots. Meet at the visitors' center. Heavy/steady rain cancels. Optional lunch at a local eatery if we get done in time. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@Yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

**Nov 13 (Sat): Harriman Circular, Tuxedo NY (Rockland Co, NY) 9:30 am.** 8-mile hike. This hike has a diversity of landscapes and lunch at a scenic lake. The pace will be moderate, but the trail can be rocky with many ups and downs. Participants should be in good condition. Must pre-register: Bob Muska: rmuska@verizon.net. (L)

**Nov 14 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Mercer/Middlesex Cos.) 9am.** We'll paddle 11 miles in a spectacular section for fall foliage - Kingston to Amwell Rd. There is one canal lock portage, bring portage wheels if you have them. Meet in Kingston at the D&R Canal State Park, Rte 27. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Nov 14 (Sun): Breakneck Pond/Harriman State Park (Rockland Co, NY.) 10am.** Moderate paced, 9-mile hike in Harriman. Combination of fire roads and hiking trails to 2-3 different lakes (depending on weather). Steady rain would cancel. Bring lunch & lots of water. Opt. pizza/beer stop after hike. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com. (N)

**Nov 18 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co.) 10am.** Enjoy a fall trip as we paddle 9 miles from Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Meet at Hawkin Bridge. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Nov 20 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Middlesex Co.) 10am.** This is the fifth and last trip of the D&R Canal fall series. We paddle 9 miles from Amwell Rd to Demott Lane. There are 3 canal lock portages; bring portage wheels if you have them. Dinner option at Pooja's in Somerset. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Nov 20 (Sat): Singles: Eagle Rock Reservation (Essex Co.) 10am.** Meet at Eagle Rock Reservation, West Orange. 4-5 miles at a moderate pace, stopping at beautiful views of NYC. Bring lunch water and wear hiking boots. Rain cancels. Take I-280 to Prospect Av, right turn onto Eagle Rock Av. Left turn into reservation. Leader: Ron Pate: ronpate31@verizon.net.

**Nov 28 (Sun): Hike Cattus Island County Park (Ocean Co.) 10am.** 5 miles, easy pace. This environmentally sensitive park spans 530 acres and boasts miles of trails, many offering lovely vistas of the adjacent Silver Bay in Toms River. Cattus Island is home to the Cooper Environmental Center, where visitors of all ages will enjoy many displays and collections of snakes and reptiles. Learn about the issues facing the ecosystem and what you can do to help save the Barnegat Bay. Bring lunch and beverage. Co-Leaders: Leona F 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com, and Joanne P jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (W)

## DECEMBER

**Dec 2 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak on the Crosswicks Creek/HTB Marsh (Mercer Co.) 9:30 am.** Join us for a leisurely 8-mile trip from Bordentown Beach to John A. Roebling Park. We'll have lunch at the Park and then enjoy a brisk walk around Spring Lake before returning with the tide. Bring lunch and hot beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**Dec 4 (Sat): Whitesbog Village Fall Hike (Burlington Co.) 10am.** 5 miles, easy pace on sandy trails. Whitesbog is a NJ historic site and was a village built to house workers who harvested the local cranberry bogs. Check the website for directions www.whitesbog.org. Leashed dogs are welcome. The General Store will be open for "bogware" purchases! Bring lunch and beverage. Meet in the parking lot across from the General Store. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Dec 4 (Sat): Singles: Hatfield Swamp (Essex Co.) 10am.** Meet at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621B Eagle Rock Av, Roseland. Moderate 4-5-mile hike. Wear water-proof boots & bring a lunch and binoculars. Rain cancels. Directions: I- 280 E or W to Exit 4A. This will put you onto Eisenhower Parkway. Make a Right at the first light onto Eagle Rock Av. The Center is 1/2 mile on the left. Plenty of parking before the building. Leader: Ron Pate: ronpate31@verizon.net.

**Dec 6 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.) 9am.** Cedar is a very pretty waterway in December, especially if we have an early snowfall. The trip will be 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation, time and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

(continued on page 12)

Our Action Alerts (bulletins on New Jersey environmental issues) are on our website ([www.newjersey.sierraclub.org](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org)). Click "Take Action."



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

**Chair**

\* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442  
kjohan@comcast.net  
72 Laurel Drive, New Providence NJ 07974-2421

**Vice-Chair and Vice-Treasurer**

Sunil Somalwar  
sunil.somalwar@gmail.com  
1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

**Conservation Chair**

\*Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642  
njsierraclub@gmail.com  
11 Lumar Rd., Trenton, NJ 08648-3127

**Political Chair**

\* Rich Isaac (973) 716-0297  
risaac@aol.com  
47 Fellsworth Dr., Livingston NJ 07039-2235

**Political Vice-Chair**

Greg Tondi  
gregt75@yahoo.com

**Secretary**

\* Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438  
blt44blt@msn.com  
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620

**Treasurer**

\* George Denzer (609) 799-5839  
gdenzer73@yahoo.com  
127 Dey Road, Cranbury NJ 08512-5418

**Outings Chair**

Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417  
EllenBlu@specialistsms.com  
43 Carlson Court, Closter NJ 07624

**Newsletter Editor**

Dick Colby (609) 965-4453  
dick.colby@stockton.edu  
217 Liverpool Av, Egg Harbor City NJ 08215-1319

**Webmaster**

George Newsome (732) 308-1518  
newsome1@pobox.com

**Membership Chair**

Cynthia Mackowicz  
cmackowicz@comcast.net

**Council Delegate**

\*Jane Tousman (908) 561-5504  
jdtous@aol.com  
14 Butler Rd., Edison NJ 08820-1007  
Alternate: Rich Isaac - (see above)

**Student Outreach Coordinator**

Jeff Huppert (973) 263-0344  
heffhup@optonline.com

**Environmental Education Coordinator**

Leia Sims  
leia@bized.com

**Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate**

Greg Auriemma (732-451-9220)  
sierraclubOC@aol.com

**NY-NJ Trail Conference Delegate**

\*Mike Herson  
mikeherson@hotmail.com

**Legal Chair**

Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873  
wsinger@singerfedun.com

**Other ExCom members at large**

\* Don McBride (732) 560-0369  
dtmcbride@alummi.haas.org

\* Lee Snyder (609) 969-7909  
pinelands1@hotmail.com

**Group Effectiveness Committee**

Rich Isaac\*\*, Barbara Conover, Cynthia Mackowicz, Greg Auriemma

**Regional Issues Committee**

Joan Denzer\*\* (JDenzer73@yahoo.com), George Denzer

**Fundraising Committee**

Ken Johanson\*\*, Joan and George Denzer, Sunil Somalwar

**Personnel Committee**

Joan Denzer\*\*, Sunil Somalwar, Ken Johanson, George Denzer

**Legislative Committee**

Ken Johanson\*\*, Carolyn Freeman, Carey Huff, Dave Mattek, Tim Palmer, and Kelly-Ann Norgaard

**Litigation Oversight Committee**

Ken Johanson\*\*, Carolyn Freeman

**Finance Committee**

George Denzer\*\*, Sunil Somalwar, Ken Johanson

**Information Technology Committee**

Sunil Somalwar\*\*, George Newsome, Laura Lynch, Joe Testa

\* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.  
\*\* Indicates committee chair or co-chair

**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

**Facilities (office, meeting sites)**

George Denzer\*\*, Joan Denzer, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar and Laura Lynch

**Issue Coordinators**

**Alaska Issues**  
Jonathan Wall (908) 295-1890  
psychologist@jonwall.com

**Clean Air Issues**

Bob Campbell (973) 761-4461  
bobc2023\_sc@verizon.net

**Delaware River Issues**

Gina Carola (856) 848-8831  
ginaceee@verizon.net  
534 Elberne Av, Westville NJ 08093-1715

**Global Warming**

Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

**Coal Campaign**

Barbara Conover (973-746-1693)  
Bconifer022@gmail.com

**Cool Cities**

Faith Teitelbaum (732-229-0553)  
faithtei@aol.com

**Highlands Issues**

Mike Herson (see left column)

**Marine Issues**

Greg Auriemma (see left column)

**Passaic River**

David Yennior (973) 844-1384  
dyennior@msn.com

**Pinelands Issues**

Lee Snyder (see left column)

**liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance:**

Mike Gallaway (M.Gallaway@comcast.net)

**Population Issues**

Bonnie Tillery (see left column)

**Recycling Issues**

David Yennior (see above)

**Sprawl Issues**

Jane Tousman (see left column)

**Tiger Conservation Issues**

Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

**Transportation Issues**

Steve Lanset (201) 860-9870  
slanset@hotmail.com

**Trail Issues**

Dave Mattek (609) 737-1342  
MattekDC@aol.com  
4 1/2 Park Av, Pennington NJ 08534-2313

**Utah, Wildland Issues**

John Kashwick (201) 660-8820  
jkashwick@optonline.net

**Water Quality and Habitat Issues**

Rich Isaac (see left column)

**Chapter Office 609-656-7612**

145 West Hanover Street, Trenton 08618  
fax: 609-656-7618

**Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel**

Jeff.Tittel@SierraClub.org

**Program Assistant: Kara Seymour**

Kara.Seymour@SierraClub.org

If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine. Please SPELL YOUR LAST NAME, and state whether the phone number you leave is for daytime or evening.

**Upcoming ExCom Meetings:**

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on **SECOND SATURDAYS**. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Ken Johanson, the Chapter Chair. (Best confirm!)

**October 9 at the New Brunswick Public Library: 60 Livingston Av.**

**November 13 at our Trenton Office: 145 W. Hanover St.**

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm.

**OUTINGS**

(Continued from page 11)

**Dec 8 (Wed): Hike from Trenton to Morrisville (Mercer Co). 10am.** Park (free) under the State House Capitol Complex. Exit onto West State Street and meet in front of the Library for a 3-mile walk across the Delaware River and atop the levee in Morrisville. When we return, we will pass 23 S. Warren St to see a beautiful mural and then visit the Wachovia Bank for the famous painting of George Washington. Lots of places for lunch afterward. Contact Joanne P at jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (C)

**Dec 11 (Sat): High Mountain Reservation, Wayne (Passaic Co). 10am.** 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain with great views. There are no facilities at this site. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required: Jimi Oleksiak (The\_Hikist@Mac.com). If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, send a brief description of your hiking experience to the leader. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Descriptions: http://www.nynjtc.org/trails/overviews/ov-high.htmlhttp://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/newjersey/work/art4432.html.

**Dec 11 (Sat): Lambertville Canal walk (Hunterdon Co). 11am.** 8-10-mile flat walk along the canal paths on the Delaware River, includes stops at Prawsville Mills and Lambertville, which may have holiday season events that day. Optional dinner in/near Lambertville afterwards. Rain would cancel. Group limit 14 people. Pre-registration required: Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

**Dec 16 (Thurs): Historic Smithville Hike and Holiday Mansion Tour (Burlington Co). 10am.** 4-5 miles, easy pace. Hike the grounds of this historic village, known for the Smithville-Mount Holly Bicycle Railroad. The 290-acre park features a diverse collection of habitats and terrain, upland forests and meadows. After hiking, we'll enjoy a guided tour of the Smithville Mansion (small fee). Option for late lunch at Vincentown Diner. Meet at Smith's Woods at Historic Smithville Park, East Railroad Av, Easthampton. Leashed dogs are welcome. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Dec 21 (Tues): Celebrate the Winter Solstice – Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co). 9am.** We'll paddle 6 miles from Hawkin Bridge to Evans Bridge. Join us for our annual solstice celebration as the sun begins anew its journey to longer days. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Dec 24 (Fri): Search for Santa on the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9am.** Wear your Santa hat as we look "high and low" for Santa on the 10-mile Canoe Trail from BCCC to Smithville. Meet at the Vincentown Diner – arrive early for breakfast. Contact leaders for trip participation, meeting time and location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Dec 26-31 (Sun-Fri): It's Patriots Week in Trenton (Mercer Co).** Are you interested in the history of the American Revolution in NJ? Washington's crossing of the Delaware? Patriots Week offers fun and history for the entire family. See the First and Second Battles of Trenton reenacted, join walking tours of the Trenton and Princeton Battlefields, learn about archaeological discoveries in Trenton. Register early for a State House Civics Tour, etc. www.patriotsweek.com. Contact leaders to meet-up for event(s) of interest: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

**SIERRAN**

Vol. 39, No. 4 • Fall, 2010

Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu) ..... Editor  
Karen Brown (karonna@yahoo.com) ..... Designer

**Editorial Board:** George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johanson, Laura Lynch, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Bonnie Tillery and Jeff Tittel.

*The Jersey Sierran* appears in January, April, July and October.

The deadline for copy is on the 10th of the month, two months before appearance.

Members are cordially invited to propose articles, essays, letters, poetry and artwork.

(Group/Section News columns are prepared by Group/Section Chairs; Outings are vetted by the Chapter Outings Chair, Ellen Blumenkrantz.)

*Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are of the writer only. Advertised products and services carry no Club endorsement.*

**Thank you to all who contributed to this issue!**  
This newsletter is produced mostly by volunteers.

**Members please send address changes:**

To [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org), or Sierra Club Membership 85 Second St, 2nd Floor San Francisco CA 94105, or 415-977-5653, and NJ Sierra Club, 145 West Hanover St. Trenton NJ 08618

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"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense"

- John Muir

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